TUESDAY
August 8, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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Vol.54 • No.187

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

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It makes the govt. less transparent

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HAVING THE LAST LAUGH

India overcomes the Korea challenge

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Armed with SC order, ED takes Tamil Nadu Minister into custody

Tamil Nadu Minister V. Senthilbalaji being brought to the ED office in Chennai on Monday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Krishnadas Rajagopal
R. Sivaraman
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday night took V. Senthilbalaji, jailed Tamil Nadu Minister without portfolio, in its custody in an alleged money laundering case after the Supreme Court earlier in the day allowed the agency to interrogate him for five days.

Mr. Senthilbalaji, who was arrested on June 14, could not be interrogated earlier as he was admitted to hospital following complaints of chest pain. Subsequently, the Minister underwent a heart bypass surgery in a private hospital in Chennai.

After being discharged, he was lodged at the Puzhal Central Prison on the city's outskirts.

Armed with the Supreme Court order, the agency through its counsel N. Ramesh moved an urgent application before the Principal Sessions Court for custodial interrogation. When the matter was taken up by Principal Sessions Judge S. Alli, Mr. Senthilbalaji was produced through video conferencing facility from the Central Prison.

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SC to appoint all-woman panel to oversee relief in Manipur

The committee will 'supervise, intervene and monitor relief and rehabilitation' in the strife-torn State; top court says it will appoint retired IPS officer Dattatray Padsalgikar to monitor the overall investigation of cases registered during the violence

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on Monday announced in open court that the Supreme Court would appoint an all-woman committee of three former High Court judges, headed by Justice Gita Mittal, former Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court, to provide a "healing touch" in violence-torn Manipur.

Justice Shalini Phansalkar Joshi, a retired Bombay High Court judge, and Justice Asha Menon, a former Delhi High Court judge, will be the members of the committee.

"This will be a broad-based committee which will be constituted to supervise, intervene and monitor relief and rehabilitation, restoration of homesteads, religious places of worships, better relief work, etc.," Chief Justice Chandrachud, heading a three-judge Bench, said.

He said the court intended to appoint the retired Maharashtra-cadre IPS officer Dattatray Padsalgikar, who had served in the National Investigation Agency, the Intelligence Bureau, and in Nagaland, to monitor the overall investigation of cases registered during the violence. Over 6,500 first information reports (FIRs) have been registered from May to July in Manipur.

The Manipur government, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, said it has transferred 11 FIRs concerning sexual violence committed against women, including the Thoubal sexual violence incident, to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

'SIT formed'

As for the other cases, which would remain with the Manipur Police, the State government said it had formed 42 special investigation teams (SIT). The top court, however, said it wanted eyes from outside the State to keep an eye on the State Police investigation into these cases, which include serious offences such as murder and arson.

It said it would direct the Directors-General of Police (DGP) from six States to name six officers of the rank of Deputy Inspector-General to take charge of six SITs each and monitor its work.

Similarly, the court said it would enforce multiple layers of monitoring of the investigation.

In the case of the 11 FIRs, the court said it would order five officers of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police or Superintendent of Police from other States to be made a part of the CBI.

"They will be nominated by their State DGPs. They will be deputed to the CBI. They will carry on the investigation under the supervision of a Joint Director of the CBI," the Chief Justice said.

By order of the Supreme Court

A Bench, headed by the Chief Justice of India, took the following decisions to help out the affected people in Manipur

- To appoint three former women High Court judges to provide a 'healing touch'
- To order DGPs of six States to name six DIG-rank officers to take charge of six SITs each
- To enforce multiple layers of monitoring of the investigation
- To make five officers of the rank of DSP or SP from other States part of the CBI
- To make the officers carry on the investigation under supervision of a CBI Joint Director

State govt. submits report on FIRs filed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Manipur government told the Supreme Court on Monday that a "disaggregation" of 6,523 FIRs shows that one case of rape and murder and three cases of rape or gang rape had been registered as on July 31.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 12

NEARBY

Actor Vijay Raghavendra's wife passes away

BENGALURU
Spandana, wife of actor Vijay Raghavendra, passed away on Monday due to cardiac arrest. She was on vacation in Bangkok. Her mortal remains will be brought to Bengaluru on Tuesday. » Page 5

Tunnel roads: DKS wants more firms to take part

BENGALURU
Amidst allegations of the project being no answer to the city's traffic problems, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister on Monday said only two companies had shown interest in the Expression of Interest floated by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike on building the proposed tunnel roads. » Page 4

A sea of pink

In full bloom: People taking a boat ride on a water lily field at Malarikkal in Kottayam of Kerala on Monday. The hamlet is witnessing a steady stream of visitors with the onset of the flowering season. VISHNU PRATHAP

Rahul back in Parliament, may open debate on no-trust motion today

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

More than four months after his disqualification as a member of the Lok Sabha, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday returned to Parliament after the Lok Sabha Secretariat restored his membership, following the Supreme Court stay on his conviction by a Surat court in a defamation case.

With Mr. Gandhi's reinstatement coming a day before the Lok Sabha takes up the no-confidence motion against the Narendra Modi government on Tuesday, he could be initiating the debate.

Back in business: Rahul Gandhi pays tribute at the Mahatma Gandhi statue in the Parliament House complex on Monday. PTI

Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury told *The Hindu*, "Rahul*ji* was the first national political leader to visit Manipur and spend two days there to understand the ground situation and appeal for peace. We want him to open the debate."

As soon as the Lok Sabha Secretariat revoked his disqualification, almost an hour before the proceedings started at 11 a.m., sweets were distributed among the floor leaders at the chamber of the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge. Mr. Gandhi arrived just before the Lok Sabha proceedings were scheduled to resume at noon.

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Court halts demolitions in Gurugram and Nuh

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Monday halted the demolition drive in Nuh and Gurugram districts of Haryana after taking *suo motu* cognisance.

"Apparently, without any demolition orders, the law and order problem is being used as a ruse to bring down buildings without following the procedure established by law," a Bench of Justices G.S. Sandhawalia and Harpreet Kaur Jeewan said.

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He saved three from a mob in Nuh; six days later, a bulldozer came visiting to demolish his house

Ashok Kumar
NUH

As communal clashes broke out on July 31 during the Brijmandal Jalabhishek Yatra of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the lives of Ravinder Phogat of Hisar and his two friends, who were travelling through Nuh, got intertwined with that of a resident of the town, Anish. He gave them shelter, offered food and words of comfort, and then escorted them to safety.

Six days later, bulldozers tore into Mr. Anish's house. Mr. Phogat, the grateful guest, made frantic calls to the police to attest that it was a place they took refuge in, not one from which stones were thrown. But the damage had been done. "Anish did not have even 1% involvement," rued the Hisar native.

Shabbir Ahmed, vice-president, Mewat Vikas Sabha, in front of Anish's house, which was demolished on Sunday. ASHOK KUMAR

Mr. Anish's house faces the Gurugram-Alwar National Highway; a road leading from the highway to the right of his house is used by devotees to reach the Shiv temple in Nalhar. Adjacent to a ceramic tiles showroom in Khedla, Mr. Anish's house was at the receiving end of the local administration's demolition drive targeting premises which were allegedly used by rioters to attack the religious procession.

Mr. Phogat, a contractor, and his friends were returning from Badkali in a car after inspecting a road for which the Nuh Public Works Department (PWD) had floated a tender. They were met by stone-throwers near Jhanda Park in Nuh around 1 p.m. "After covering some distance, we spotted the police and tried to pull over. But they asked us not to stop. We reached a tiles showroom and saw a mob in front. We ran for our lives and took shelter inside a house, which we later discovered belonged to Mr. Anish," Mr. Phogat said.

While their car was set ablaze, the trio spent an anxious few hours with their Muslim host. Mr. Anish later dropped them off in his car at the PWD guest house in Nuh, where they stayed overnight and left for Gurugram and then to Hisar the next day in the car of Sohna BJP MLA Sanjay Singh. They filed an FIR in connection with the incident.

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State forms four teams to probe works awarded during BJP govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government constituted four special investigation teams (SITs) to probe projects sanctioned between 2019-20 and 2022-23 in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), and gave a slew of directions to the teams on the investigation, on August 5. The BJP was at the helm of the government of Karnataka between 2019-20 and 2022-23.

The teams were formed to investigate projects approved for solid waste management (team lead – Ujjwal Kumar Ghosh), road development (Amlan Aditya Biswas), storm water drain (P.C. Jaffar), and lake development (Vishal R.). Sources in the BBMP said that the probe has commenced.

The State Government set up these teams after receiving complaints about alleged irregularities like fake billing, violation of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement (KTPP) Act, poor quality of work, and impersonation.

The teams will not look into projects that are already under investigation.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 4

Sai Kishore riding a wave

With consistent performances on the domestic circuit in the past two years, including the Duleep and Deodhar Trophies this season, the lanky tweaker is inching closer to an India cap

S. Dipak Ragav

Over the last few years, R. Sai Kishore has made rapid progress in domestic cricket, especially in the shorter formats. He has already been a part of a limited-overs tour to Sri Lanka in 2021, was back-up for the home series against West Indies in 2022 and is also a standby for the Asian Games next month.

The 26-year-old was also appointed as captain of the Tamil Nadu Ranji Trophy side last year for the final two matches though he led in only one game and missed the other due to illness. With impressive performances in the Duleep and Deodhar Trophy tournaments for South Zone this year, the lanky tweaker is inching close to earning his maiden India cap.

Already ready

With the buzz increasing with every tournament he plays, Sai Kishore refuses to buy too much into the hype. Sportspersons often use cliches like 'being in the present or taking it one game at a time', but for the TN spinner, the reasons are more in the firm belief he is already ready.

"As an Indian, when it comes to international cricket, our odds are 15 among a billion people. The way I see it is, 'Am I equipped for international cricket? If I am taken in there, can I survive?' If the honest answer to that question is yes, that is enough.

"Two years before making my IPL debut, I knew I was ready. I am not chasing it. I am happy where I am and grateful for it, and being part of these tournaments are important markers," he said in a chat with *The Hindu* during the Deodhar Trophy, where he finished as the joint third-highest wicket-taker with 11 scalps.

Even though he has constantly improved in all aspects of the game, the 26-year-old also has the unenviable task of playing in the era of Ravindra Jadeja and now Axar Patel. It is similar to what the wicketkeepers in the country, like Wriddhiman Saha or Dinesh Karthik, faced when they had to compete for a spot with M.S. Dhoni.

When asked how tough it is knowing it won't be easy to get past the incumbents, Sai Kishore said, "Once you feel ready, you don't have to bother about anything else or what others are doing. I have a belief I will play for India. If it is meant to happen, it will. But it won't change me as a person.

"It doesn't make a big difference beyond a fleeting moment; only the tag changes. I had to wait two years and 13 games last year before playing in the IPL. I had a strong desire to play in the IPL, but it made no difference after two days. Playing for India will be a proud moment, but it is not everything because you then won't enjoy playing for South Zone or TN."

Talking of IPL, he had to wait for a long time for his break in the big league. He spent two years with Chennai Super Kings (2020, 2021) and finally made his debut in 2022 for Gujarat Titans. Despite doing reasonably well, he had to warm the bench this season because of the demands of team combination.

"It was very tough when it happened. Naturally, you have more expectations after doing well the previous year. But I am grateful to have had Hardik Pandya and Ashish Nehra. I could go and ask why I am not playing. They were honest in saying, 'You are just unlucky. You are doing everything, turning up, working hard.'

> I had to wait two years and 13 games last year before playing in the IPL. I had a strong desire to play in the IPL, but it made no difference after two days. Playing for India will be a proud moment, but it is not everything because you then won't enjoy playing for South Zone or Tamil Nadu

"The clarity from the management meant I could focus on my game using the facilities in Ahmedabad, and I feel my batting has improved now," he said.

After Kane Williamson's injury, the team opted to try overseas left-arm wrist spinner, Noor Ahmad. "When there is an option of adding a variety, the management will be tempted to try. It is the logical explanation, but it becomes harder when you put emotions into it.

"Everyone wants to play in the IPL because if you want and desire to play for India, it is important. But it is a part of learning; learning about why I play the sport and life skills. I am playing the game for sheer joy, so these expectations and dreams are foolish. I am grateful for all these things as it makes one mentally tougher."

While he has been spectacular in shorter formats with his ability to bowl in the PowerPlay and even the death overs, there is a perception that he still has to do more in First Class cricket, where he has 113 wickets at an average of 26 after 30 matches. "I am happy where I am as a red-ball cricketer. My effectiveness in a game situation is there, and I feel my bowling is sorted. I want to improve, and that quest will always be there, even 10 years later, but I am ready as a bowler for the big stage.

"If you walk on water, there will be opinions still saying you can't fly, and there is not much you can do about it," he said to the perception of him being more of a white-ball bowler.

The left-arm spinner also revealed that he can be relaxed about his future and the big picture because of the journey that has got him to where he is today. Having burst onto the scene in the 2017 TNPL when he finished as the highest wicket-taker, he thought things would come thick and fast. However, he had a reality check when he got snubbed at the auction a few times.

'Improve my base batting'

"I thought if I do well in the TNPL, I will get there (IPL), but once that did not happen, I wondered why. Then I realised I needed to improve my batting and fielding and started working with R. Prasanna (former Tamil Nadu skipper) to improve my base batting so that I could at least score 20 runs.

"For me, the Tamil Nadu cap didn't come easy; to be a regular in the team wasn't easy. I played in TNPL and wanted to play regularly for the State side. After that, I wanted to be part of all formats, and last year I also had the chance to lead the side in the Ranji Trophy. There is a difference between going from under-19 to IPL and doing it the hard way through domestic cricket. You are not overwhelmed by fame or money, and you are balanced. Everything has taken time, and there is beauty in that," said Sai Kishore.

Nigerian women making the country and continent proud

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
BRISBANE

Nigeria's impressive run at the Women's World Cup may have come to an end on Monday, but coach Randy Waldrum said its performances had made the football world sit up and take notice.

The Nigerians bowed out when they went down 4-2 on penalties to football heavyweights England when their last-16 encounter finished goalless at the end of extra time.

Waldrum said Nigeria, which came into the tournament ranked 40th in the world, had done both its country and the continent of Africa proud.

"They've been fantastic the whole tournament," Waldrum, an American, said.

"I said to them after the game we've not lost a game realistically (outside the penalty shootout).

"We've played against the Olympic gold medallists (Canada), the European champions (England) and we kept a clean sheet in both of those games.

"We played the host nation (Australia) and Ireland, who are in the top 20, and we didn't lose."

A matter of pride: Coach Waldrum said Nigeria's performances, alongside those of South Africa and Morocco, should shine a light on African football. GETTY IMAGES

Waldrum said Nigeria's performances, alongside those of South Africa and Morocco, should shine a light on African football.

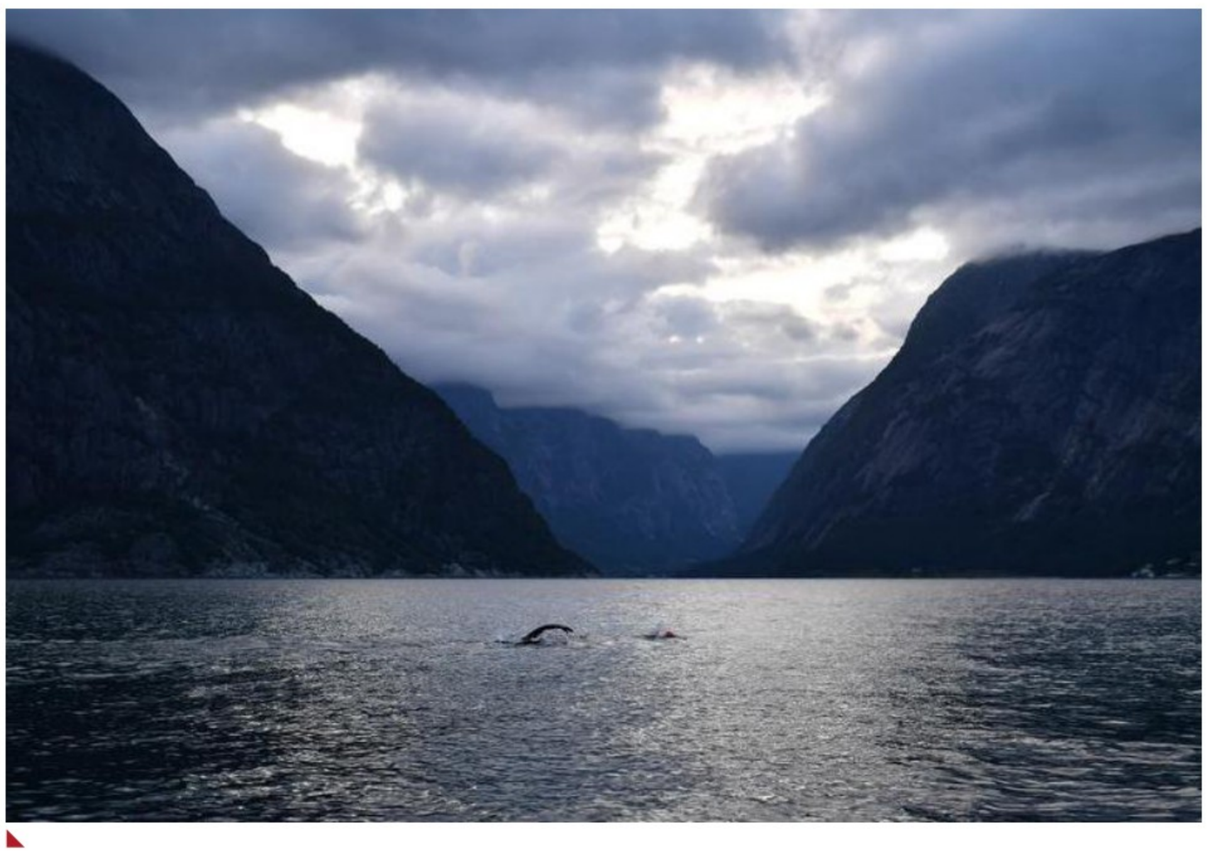
"South Africa was exceptional in their run as well and you saw they created a lot of problems for the Netherlands yesterday," he said.

"I hope what we've done is show the rest of the world that football in Africa is relevant.

"I hope people have seen that there is talent there and that we have the ability, and with a little structure and a little organisation, and a commitment to provide the resources that we need, hopefully people see that we can be a major player on the world stage."

Waldrum said the most important thing was for Nigeria not to lose the momentum they have developed in Australia. "We don't want to take the success and now not continue to move forward when we get back to Nigeria," he said.

THE BRUTAL RACE



It is considered by many as the toughest race on the planet. The Norseman Triathlon involves the same distances and disciplines as the more well known Ironman. The conditions are known to get harsh — water temperatures have been known to dip to 10°C — and weather conditions and health checks are taken into account to decide if the race can go on. This 'unbranded' Ironman begins with a 3800m swim in the Norwegian fjords, followed by a 180km bike race on the mountains and finally a 42.2km run that ends in an incline.

It features on the 'bucket lists' of fearless folk that thrive on pushing limits, although there are limitations on the number of participants each year. Those who finish in the cut-off time are bestowed with the Norsemen title.

Locals hold an edge, naturally, but racers from across the world put up a strong fight. This year, Britain's Flora Colledge won the women's race — finally, on her fifth attempt! Among the men, Norwegian Jon Breivold took his third consecutive title. German triathlon legend Sebastian Kienle came in second, striking off a major item on his bucket list by the earning the title in the last long-distance race of his professions career in Europe.

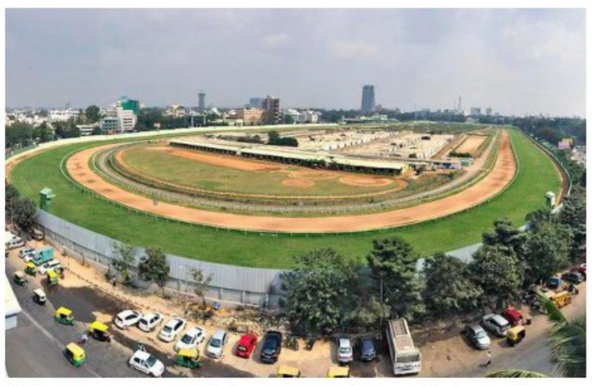
Bangalore Turf Club: Racing comes to a halt after govt. refuses to renew licence

Sources say the govt. has put forth again a proposal to shift racing activities to outside the city, and its latest decision is linked to that

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The impasse between the State Government and the Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) over shifting the race course from the heart of the city, has reared again nearly six years after the last serious trouble when racing activities had come to a standstill in the city. With the government refusing to renew the monthly betting licence since August 1, the future for the BTC remains grim.

While two racing days, which remained to be completed from the summer racing season, have been cancelled, the off-course betting for the races being held in Pune and Hyderabad did not take place. The fate of off-course betting for Kolkata and Delhi races scheduled later this month hangs in balance as much as the off-course betting for races in Mysuru, Chennai, and Mumbai that are also scheduled to start later. The winter racing season normally starts in November. The off-course betting is a big revenue earner.


With the government refusing to renew the monthly betting licence since August 1, the future for the BTC remains grim. FILE PHOTO

Sources said that the government has putforth the proposal again to shift the racing activities to outside the city and has not renewed the licence for the same reason. Sources also said as a related event, the government is expecting the BTC to withdraw the case pertaining to shifting of the race course that is pending before the Supreme Court. In a similar fashion, the racing in Bengaluru had come to a standstill in 2017 after government refused to renew licence for over four months. "No formal or informal proposal has been made for alternative land yet for any discussion to start on moving out of the current premises," sources clarified.

On Monday, the BTC invited former office bearers of the club to discuss the imbroglio as the BTC delegation that met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday could not break the ice. BTC sources said the special general body meeting is also likely to be convened in the coming days where the proposals will be put forth and opinion elicited.

Though the proposal to shift the race course out of the present land, which was gifted by the Maharaj of Mysuru, has been there for a few decades now. Over a decade ago, the Government had identified three parcels of land to shift the race course, but the matter did not progress due to legal hindrances.

Livelihood at stake

A former BTC chairman told *The Hindu* that the development will affect a large number of stakeholders, including horse owners and those looking after the horses in the BTC stable. "On average, ₹30,000 to ₹40,000 is spent on looking after each horse every month. In many cases, the expense may go up to ₹50,000. Without racing their livelihood is at stake," he said.

Currently, there are about 750 horses in the BTC stables, and the club estimates that about 1,600 people are directly involved in the racing activities. While about 600 workers are in the stables looking after the horses, about 100 assistant trainers and rider boys work with horses even as about 600 workers operate the tote machines. Besides, there are about 300 workers in the club.

A senior office bearer termed the decision to deny the licence as a "body blow" to the racing activities. "We are already in crisis with no income. The club is suffering losses to the tune of lakhs daily. It will be difficult to sustain like this for long. Livelihood of jockeys, daily wagers, rider boys, and workers in the stable is at risk." The office bearer said, "We are hoping that the government allows us to function subject to the outcome of the meetings. The Chief Minister is expected to call a meeting of officials and BTC representatives shortly."

Use of drone cameras over Mysuru palace restricted

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The use of drone cameras over the iconic Mysuru palace has been restricted.

A statement from Deputy Director of Mysuru Palace Board on Monday, said that area in the vicinity of the famous Mysuru palace has been identified as "Yellow Zone". Hence, the use of drone cameras has been restricted.

Use of drone cameras over Mysuru palace requires prior permission from the Mysuru Palace Board.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated August 8, we have an interview with Vance Martin, in which he speaks about topics such as the WILD Foundation, human-animal conflict, and India's cheetah reintroduction project.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (August 8, Tuesday), the following articles are available:

- The push to bring the private sector into mineral exploration **bit.ly/miningpolicy**
- Evolution not against same-sex behaviour in monkeys: study **bit.ly/evolutionmonkey**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Father and son run over by speeding a car

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A father-son duo was killed and another person was seriously injured after a speeding car ran over them on ISRO Road near M.S. Ramaiah Medical College in Bengaluru on Sunday night.

The deceased identified as Raghu, 65, and his son Chiranjeevi, 25. Raghu owns a book store at Koramangala.

The accident occurred around 12 a.m. when the duo was returning home on a two-wheeler after work.

According to the police, the driver of the car hit an autorickshaw parked on the roadside. He ran over the scooter and a pedestrian in an attempt to avoid hitting two more parked cars. The pedestrian,Vasu, sustained serious injuries and is being treated in a hospital.

Three persons were in the car at the time of the accident. Two managed to flee from the spot.

Passers-by managed to nab one of the occupants of the car, identified as Akash, and handed him over to the Sadashivanagar traffic police.

The accused is said to be the son of a zilla panchayat member, the police said.

A case has been registered at Sadashivanagar traffic police station.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Smt.Mangamma and others and Smt. Narasamma (Agreement holder/Confirming Party) residing at Junnasandra Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore are the absolute owners of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owners. All persons having any claims against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof,** failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.B -26, measuring East to West 80ft and North to South 50ft totally measuring 4000 Sq.ft, in the layout known as GREEN VILLE carved out of land bearing Survey Number 26/1,24/1,25,28/2, 27/3, 27/2 and 27/1 situated at Junnasandra Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on - **East by :** 30 feet Road; **West by :** Site No.D4 and D5; **North by :** Site No.B-27; **South by :** Site No.B-25.

Dated this 08th day of August 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of our client **Mr.KANNAN RAMASAMY,** S/o Ramasamy to bring to the notice of the general public that the Original **sale deed dated 07.11.2001 doc. No.3379/2001-02** in Book-I, Volume No.1039, Page Nos.194-205, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Basavanagudi, Bangalore is missing / lost/ misplaced.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Apartment **No.B-203** on the First floor of **Krishna Vilas Apartments,** 'B' Block forming part of the multi-storeyed building constructed on Municipal No.39/1/03 and 32/2/03, subsequently New No.1/3 and 2/3, situated **on 8th Cross, Ashok Nagar (familiarly known as Vajpeyam Ganrdems), Bangalore** admeasuring 1300 Sft Super Built area i.e., including share in common areas with 1/24th undivided share and interest in the land equivalent to about **645 square feet.**

D & M Law Associates, Advocates
Unit # 404A, Queens Corner Apartment, No.3, Queens Road, Bangalore-560052.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any persons having any claim, right or interest in respect of the below mentioned schedule property shall write to the undersigned together with the documentary evidence support thereof **WITHIN A PERIOD OF 14 DAYS** from the date of publication. Any claims after the said period shall not be considered and be deemed that there no claims whatsoever pertaining to the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing **Site No.11,** portion of BBMP Khata Sl.No.3252, Industrially converted (High Tech) land bearing (Old Sy.No.128/7), converted vide Official Memorandum BDS:ALN(EVH), SR.77 of 2010-11, dated 03.09.2010, New Sy.No.128/26, measuring extent of 31.04 Guntas (34,077 Sq.ft) situated at **Boganhalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk.** presently Comes under administrative jurisdiction of BBMP, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South on the Eastern side 33 feet 2 inches, on Western side 33 feet 9 inches, totally measuring 1673 Sq.ft., and bounded on the: **East by:** Site No. 10, **West by:** Site No. 12, **North by:** 25 feet wide Road, **South by:** Property belongs to Shobha Developer in the same Sy.No. 128/25.

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the **NOTICE** of General Public, that **SUBHA MOHANAN,** aged about 55 years w/o. Pookkot Mohan R/at: #329, Kalabham, Pooja Nagar, Akathethara (Part), Kallekulangara, Palakkad District, Kerala -678 009, is the full & absolute owner of the Site No. 112, New BBMP Katha Sl.No.10316, formed in Property No.26 of SEEGEHALLI VILLAGE, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, having acquired from her previous Owner/Donor/ husband/ **Mr.Pookkot Mohan** under Gift Deed dated 15/04/2023 registered as Document No. KRI-1-00544/2023-24 of Book - I stored in C.D. No. KRID 1730 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar (K R Pura), Bangalore, which is more fully described in the schedule below.

Further, Subha Mohanan sold the schedule property/Site No.112 in favour of Bhimanapalli Nagasunil & Putturu Lalitha vide absolute Sale Deed dated 12/06/2023 registered as Document No.BDH-1-02078/2023-24 of Book-I stored in CD No. BDHD 1321 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bidarahalli, Bangalore.

It is further notified to the General Public that Pookkot Mohan had lost the Original Sale Deed dated 10/12/1997 executed by Vijayaragava Reddy represented by his GPA Holder M R Shivakumar in favour of Pookkot Mohan, registered as Document No.KRP/8962/1997-98 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore. A Police complaint in this regard was lodged with Bengaluru City Police vide Lost Report No.0662026/2023 dated 28/07/2023. We, hereby request on behalf of SUBHA MOHANAN that if any person/s come across or find the same, he/she/they are requested to hand over the same to the below mentioned address & they will be compensated accordingly.

The General Public are hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule site with any person/s on the basis of the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk & cost and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property and in such an event they have no claim of whatsoever nature against Subha Mohanan or Bhimanapalli Nagasunil & Putturu Lalitha the present owner nor against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of property bearing **Site No. 112,** New BBMP Katha Sl.No.10316, Formed in Property No.26 of **SEEGEHALLI VILLAGE, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru District,** now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, Ward No.53, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 feet totally measuring **1200 square feet** & bounded on :

East by : Road;
West by : Site No. 113;
North by : Site No. 111 &
South by : Site No. 115.

M/s. GANJAM NAGARAJ ASSOCIATES,
Advocates
Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross, 6th Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 082.
Dated : 07/08/2023 Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the **NOTICE** of General Public, that **SUBHA MOHANAN,** aged about 55 years w/o. Pookkot Mohan R/at: #329, Kalabham, Pooja Nagar, Akathethara (Part), Kallekulangara, Palakkad District, Kerala -678 009, is the full & absolute owner of the Site No. 112, New BBMP Katha Sl.No.10316, formed in Property No.26 of SEEGEHALLI VILLAGE, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, having acquired from her previous Owner/Donor/ husband/ **Mr.Pookkot Mohan** under Gift Deed dated 15/04/2023 registered as Document No. KRI-1-00544/2023-24 of Book - I stored in C.D. No. KRID 1730 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar (K R Pura), Bangalore, which is more fully described in the schedule below.

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The General Public are hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule site with any person/s on the basis of the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk & cost and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property and in such an event they have no claim of whatsoever nature against Subha Mohanan or Bhimanapalli Nagasunil & Putturu Lalitha the present owner nor against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

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East by : Road;
West by : Site No. 113;
North by : Site No. 111 &
South by : Site No. 115.

M/s. GANJAM NAGARAJ ASSOCIATES,
Advocates
Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross, 6th Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 082.
Dated : 07/08/2023 Bangalore

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer, P.W. (North) Division, Dhule-424001

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.17 / 2023-2024

Online Tenders (e-tender) in " B-1" form for the **14 (Fourteen)** works are invited by the Executive Engineer, P.W. (North) Division, Dhule, (Phone no. 02562-288763) on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System. **http: // mahatenders. gov.in** from the registered in appropriate class of Public Works Department of Maharashtra State and any bidder who satisfy the qualifying criteria.

As per above tender notice, **14 (Fourteen)** works, detail tender information will be available at http: // mahatenders.gov.in and can be download from **08/08/2023 at 18:00 hrs to 23/08/2023 at 17:45 hrs**.

Prebid of 11 (Eleven) Works on 18/08/2023 Time 12.00 Hours in the office of the Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Dhule. Opening of above work On 25/08/2023 Time 11.00 Hours (If possible) in the office of the Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Dhule

Sd/-
Day Executive Engineer,
P.W. (North) Division, Dhule

DGIPR/2023/2024/2668

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Smt.Sakamma wife of Sri.Shankarachari residing at No.234, 6th Cross, Mariyappa Palya Flower Garden Magadi Road, Bangalore -560023 is the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claims against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of land bearing Survey Number 77/2, measuring 2 Acres 1 Guntas, situated at Jayamangala Village, Lakkuru Hobli, Maluru Taluk, Kolar District and bounded on - **East by :** land bearing Survey Number 73; **West by :** land bearing Survey Number 77/1; **North by :** land bearing Survey Number 76/1 and 76/2; **South by :** land bearing Survey Number 89.

Dated this 08th day of August 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,
(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR MOVABLE ITEMS

Pursuant to attachment of movable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court the Special Officer & Competent Authority (under KPIDFE-IMA and other Scam), is issuing notice for e-auction of the movables attached through e-auction on **'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.**

"SPLOCA" here by invites bids from the intending bidders along with a bid deposit as mentioned in the table below as Earnest Money for MOVABLE ITEMS- Vehicles to be paid through DD in favor of **"Special Officer and Competent Authority (EMD)" or through RTGS/NEFT to the Account number 41506340119, IFSC Code: SBIN0040277 STATE BANK OF INDIA, VIDHANA SOUDHA Branch.**

Short description of the Movable items

Sl. No.	Description of Vehicles	Reserve Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	Range Rover 30L DV6 LMV CAR Vehicle No: PY 05 C 7777 Year Of Mfg:2016, Odometer Reading 43,078 Kms	67,75,500/-	3,40,000/-	35,000/-
2.	Maruthi Ertiga VXI BSIV LMV CAR, Vehicle No: KA 05 MP 2707 Year Of Mfg:2013 Odometer Reading 1,17,053 Kms	4,85,000/-	24,250/-	5,000/-
3.	Honda Activa 5G Motorcycle/Scooter, Vehicle No: KA 03 JX 3774, Year Of Mfg:2019 Odometer Reading 18,022 Kms	53,000/-	2,650/-	500/-
4.	Bolero ZLX Microhybrid 2 WD LMV CAR, Vehicle No: KA 03 MX 0246 Year Of Mfg:2015 Odometer Reading 59,866 Kms	4,52,000/-	22,600/-	4,500/-
5.	Maruthi Ritz, LMV CAR Vehicle No: KA 05 MP 8021 Year Of Mfg:2015	1,00,000/-	5,000/-	1000/-
6.	Tata Winger Ambulance Vehicle No: KA 51 B 8031 Year Of Mfg:2014	75,000/-	3,750/-	750/-

Date of Inspection. Time & place: **25th of August, 2023, 11 am to 2 pm**
Place of Inspection: **No.48, PID No.64-86-48, 30th cross, Bannerghatta Road, Ward No.46, Thilak Nagara, Bengaluru-41**
Date of Pre-bid meeting, time & place: **28th of August, 2023 3 pm to 4 pm**
Place: **O/o SPLOCA, 3rd Floor Podium Block, Visveswariah Tower, Bengaluru-01**
Date & time of E-Auction: **31st of August 2023 11 am to 1 pm**
Last date of Submission of Bid Documents & EMD Submission: **23rd August, 2023, till 5.00 pm**

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: **https://www.bankeauctions.com.** The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Joint Secretary, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: **splocaeauction@gmail.com** or Contact Mob. No 8217203930.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 05.08.2023

Sd/-
The Special Officer & Competent Authority
(Under KPIDFE - IMA & Other Scam)
Bengaluru, Karnataka

DIPR/CP/821/Zenkar/2023-24

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Mobile : 73495 98454
SUKHI ARCADE, 175, Chickpet Main Road, Bangalore - 560 053.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TUNGALA VIJAYA BABU, R/at 40, Banaswadi, Bang– 43 have changed my daughter´s name from Tungala Lakshmi Abheekhya to Tungala Abheekhya for all her future purposes by affidavit 05–08–2023, Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar.

I, RASHIDA Gour, W/o Abdul Rehman Gour, R/at No.50, 6th A Cross, 20th Main, BTM 1st Stage, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name from Rashida Gour to Rasheeda Rehman vide affidavit dated 07-08-2023 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

I, ASHOK Kumar Sohanrajji Mutha, R/at Flat GF-B Symbiosis Maniras, Rangarao Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore-560004 Have changed my name to Ashok Sohanraj Mutha vide Affidavit dated 07.08.2023 sworn before Notary A. Manjula. Bengaluru.

I, AMITHA Kumari Ashok Kumar Mutha, R/at Flat GF-B Symbiosis Maniras, Rangarao Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore-560004 have changed my name to Amitha Ashok Mutha vide Affidavit dated 07.08.2023 sworn before Notary A. Manjula. Bengaluru.

I, MOHANKUMAR, S/o Sivaprakasam, R/o 58, Annai Kudil, 2nd Cross, R R Layout, Vijanapura, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru have changed my name from Mohankumar to Mohan Kumar S vide affidavit dt: 05-08-2023 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

I, ABDUL Rehman, S/o Basare Sultan, R/at No.50, 6th A Cross, 20th Main, BTM 1st Stage, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name from Abdul Rehman to Abdul Rehman Gour vide affidavit dated 07-08-2023 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

I, SHYAMALA, W/o Mohan Kumar S, R/o 58, Annai Kudil, 2nd Cross, R R Layout, Vijanapura, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru have changed my name from Shyamala to G. Syamala vide affidavit dt: 05-08-2023 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, CHODAGAM RAMA LAKSHMI, R/at 40, Banaswadi, Bang– 43 have changed my name from Tungala Rama Lakshmi to Chodagam Rama Lakshmi for all my future purposes by affidavit 05–08–2023, Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar.

I, Mohan Vadivel S/O, Vadivelu A R/o D-1002, 10th Floor, Valmark Orchard Square, Kothanur Main Road, J.p.nagar 8th Phase, Bengaluru - 76 have changed my name to Mohan Vadivelu for all purposes.

I, KHURSHID, S/o Basra, R/at No.50, 6th A Cross, 20th Main, BTM 1st Stage, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name from Khurshid to Khurshid Ahmed Gour vide affidavit dated 07-08-2023 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

I, NAZAMA, W/o Khurshid Ahmed Gour, R/at No.50, 6th A Cross, 20th Main, BTM 1st Stage, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name from Nazama to Najma Bano vide affidavit dated 07-08-2023 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, B'lore

I, PALLAVI Kulkarni, R/at Flat U-2, Wilasa Grand Villaments, JP Nagar 9th Phase, Doddakallasandra, Bangalore-560062 have changed my name to Pallavi Pranesh Kulkarni vide Affidavit dated 07.08.2023 sworn before Notary A. Manjula. Bengaluru.

I, VENU GOPAL.L, R/at 855, Henuur Cross, Bang– 43 have changed my daughter's name from ANNIE to ANNIE VENU for all her future purposes by affidavit 07–08–2023, Notary Udaykumar.K

LOST & FOUND

IT IS notified for the information that my Original Bachelors Degree Certificate (year 2010). No. 201140987, Kristhu Jayanthi College, Bangalore University has been lost. Name: Pinto A George S/O A P George #2, Nanjappa Garden, Near Hema Book Stores, Balaji Theatre Road, Vannarpet, Vivekanagar Post Bangalore 560047 Mob: 9620157833.

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, AT BENGALURU
4th Floor, Telephone House Building, Raja Bhavan Road, BENGALURU- 560 001
IN THE MATTER OF
O. A. No. 1219/2022

BETWEEN :
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant
And
Quadra Point Brand Service Pvt. Ltd. and Others
...Defendants

DEFENDANTS :
1. Quadra Point Brand Services Private Limited, No. 5/1, Flat No. F-3, 3rd Floor, Rich Homes, Richmond Road, Next to Sonata Software, Bangalore- 560025. CIN:U74900KA2015PTC080028 PAN No : AAACQ3829J Giridhar@quadra_point.com
2. Giridhar Rukmangada, S/o. Rukmangada, Aged about 45 Years, Residing at K 1104, Brigade Gateway Apartments, Dr Rajkumar Road, Next to Orion Mall, Malleshwaram West, Bengaluru- 560055. PAN No. ADHPR8269F Phone No. 9880724479

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS the Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of Recovery of Debts due to banks and financial Institution Act,1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.39,68,809.31/- (Rupees Thirty-Nine Lakhs Sixty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Nine and Thirty-One Paise Only)** together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

You are hereby, required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons or on **07/11/2023** at **11:00 A.M.** in person or by pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this **25 th** day of **April 2023.**

By order of The Tribunal
Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

SALE DEEDS doc nos 2035/2016 dt 13.7.2016 and 2224/2016 dt 2.8.2016 are missing since 4/8/2023. If found kindly return to Prabir Kumar Mitra #416, Janatha Colony, BG Road Bangalore 83.

TENDERS

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.
Regd. Office: NAFED House, Siddhartha Enclave, Ring Road, Ashram Chowk, New Delhi-110014
Ph.: EPABX: 011-26340019
Website: www.nafed-india.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NAFED Nasik Branch, invites bids from interested parties for:-

1. Transportation of Onion from Maharashtra to various locations in the country. Last date for Bid submission: **16.08.2023 upto 2:00 PM.**

2. Supply of Leno Bags for packing of Onion. Last date for bid submission: **18.08.2023 upto 3:00 PM.**

Interested parties may visit **https://www.nafed-india.com** (News and Tender Section) for further details.

State Head - Nasik Branch
Phone No.: # 7066601159
E-mail: nafnasik@nafed-india.com

Evolution not against same-sex behaviour in monkeys: study

Same-sex sexual behaviour in animals is considered a 'Darwinian paradox': if reproduction is critical to evolution, then non-reproductive behaviour should have ceased, but a study has found that rhesus macaque males' same-sex sexual behaviour has not compromised opportunities to evolve

Sayantan Datta

In 1896, controversy broke out when French entomologist Henri Gadeau de Kerville published the first sketch of two male cockchafers, a species of scarab beetles, copulating.

More than a century later, in 2012, researchers at the Tring Natural History Museum in the U.K. rediscovered a four-page pamphlet originally published in 1915 by the English naturalist George Levick. It seems Levick had observed same-sex sexual behaviour (SSB) in Adélie penguins.

Since then, scientists have reported it in pigeons, swans, albatrosses, lions, dolphins, bats, elephants, bonobos, gorillas, monkeys, lizards, tortoises, dragonflies, fruit flies, and bed bugs.

Animals that engage in SSB have been considered a 'Darwinian paradox': if reproduction is critical to evolution, then SSB – which is non-reproductive – should have ceased to exist. The supposed paradox is also fed by a longstanding belief among biologists that SSB could be evolutionarily "costly" to species because it leads to fewer offspring, thus reducing the chances of evolution mediated by natural selection.

Now, in a study published in July in *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, researchers at the Imperial College London have challenged the premise of this paradox. The team, led by postdoctoral fellow Jackson Clive, has reported that at least in rhesus macaques, male SSB is remarkably common and "is not [evolutionarily] costly".

Volker Sommer, a professor of evolutionary anthropology at University College London, said the study is the first to find evidence that SSB has a "heritable component" in the case of animals. He wasn't involved in the study.

A rhesus macaque in Nathia Gali, Pakistan, March 18, 2023. UNSPLASH

> The study suggests that male same-sex behaviour in rhesus monkeys is "polygenic": influenced by more than one gene.

Island of the monkeys

For their study, Dr. Clive and his team observed rhesus macaques, a common monkey model, in Cayo Santiago, an island east of Puerto Rico.

In 1938, researchers from Columbia University and the University of Puerto Rico shipped hundreds of monkeys from India to the island to establish a "disease-free breeding colony of monkeys in order to provide animals for research on tropical diseases."

Today, the island is home to more than 1,700 descendants of the original population. The monkeys are surveyed every day. Every year, researchers study babies to determine their paternal and maternal lineages.

For Dr. Clive & co., the island offered a large population of free-ranging monkeys as well as comprehensive data to answer their question: is SSB heritable?

The heritability question

For three years, the researchers documented the frequency of same-sex and different-sex mounting by rhesus monkeys under observation. Mounting, according to a 2021 paper, is "sexual behaviour without a reproductive function", making it an apt "sociosexual behaviour".

Dr. Clive's team observed 236 male macaques and found that "72% … engaged in same-sex mounting, in comparison with 46% for different-sex mounting," says their paper.

Having discovered the high frequency of SSB in their study population, the authors turned their attention to its heritability – an idea mired in controversy.

In 1993, American geneticist Dean Hamer found that the human X-chromosome has a region whose transmission through the members of a family corresponded to "same-sex orientation" of male individuals in that family. Dr. Hamer concluded that "at least one subtype of male sexual orientation is genetically influenced."

But then another study, published in 2019 in *Science*, examined more than half a million human genomes and found that while five "spots" in the genome were potentially related to same-sex behaviour, none of them had the power to predict one's sexuality.

Instead of attempting to find one or many genes that could determine a monkey's proclivity for SSB, the Imperial College researchers used two statistical measures: repeatability and heritability.

According to Dr. Clive, repeatability measures the amount by which "differences between individuals" determines variation in a certain behaviour. Heritability, on the other hand, measures the amount by which such variation could be attributed to "relatedness between individuals (or genetics)".

The researchers found that male SSB was at least partly heritable.

They also calculated a different statistical measure called "evolvability", which gives an estimate of a behaviour's potential to evolve over time due to natural selection.

Their calculations suggest that male SSB in rhesus monkeys is "polygenic": influenced by more than one gene. The estimates indicated that male SSB was "strongly influenced" by non-genetic factors, including a monkey's interaction with others in the population and the environment.

The results agree with those from genetic studies on human SSB: that there is no single "gay gene" – a deleterious idea that was deflated by the large 2019 study – in monkeys or humans.

As science communicator Nsikan Akpan wrote then, "polygenic traits can be strongly influenced by the environment, meaning there's no clear winner in this 'nature versus nurture' debate."

Clive et al.'s conclusions also challenge the idea that genetics alone determines one's sexual behaviour – i.e. the idea of genetic determinism. Instead, the modest role of genetics appears to complement that of an organism's interaction with others and its environment.

Reproductive fitness

The idea that SSB might be evolutionarily expensive hinges on the idea that animals that engage in it more often have fewer opportunities for sexual behaviour involving partners of different sexes, especially unto reproduction. The latter is called different-sex sexual behaviour (DSB).

In the new study, the researchers found three reasons to question this assumption.

First: they observed that all the sexually active males in their cohort barring one were "behaviourally bisexual", so they had or will have an "opportunity to pass on their genes".

Second: an individual monkey's proclivity for SSB wasn't found to be correlated to that towards DSB. Just because a monkey engaged in more SSB didn't mean it wasn't engaging in enough DSB.

Third: the team counted the number of offspring fathered by each monkey in the cohort. "In all cases, we didn't find that more SSB activity predicted an individual had fewer offspring," Dr. Clive said.

According to him, this is the "strongest evidence" that SSB doesn't exact an evolutionary cost, at least from male rhesus macaques.

In fact, the team found that pairs of monkeys engaging in SSB also formed "coalitions" against a common enemy. These bonds, according to Dr. Clive, could have an evolutionary benefit.

Aaron Sandel, an assistant professor at the University of Texas-Austin who studies social relationships in chimpanzees, affirmed the study's observations.

"Mounting may be a way to communicate and to co-regulate emotions before a risky or stressful situation, like chasing after another monkey," he said.

A note of caution

Dr. Clive believes future work must investigate female SSB to understand whether their findings might apply to both sexes.

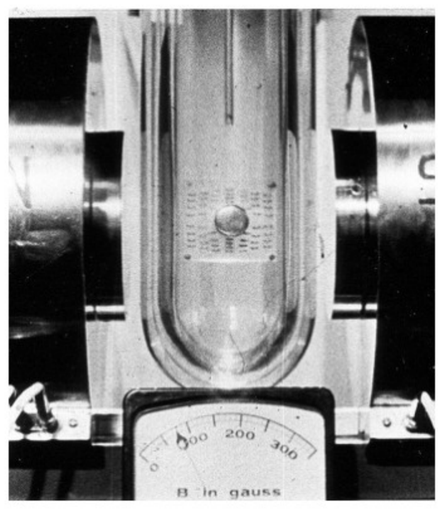
The study he led could not do this because, contrary to his expectations, female monkeys in the cohort were not engaging in "much SSB at all".

He also said that similar studies on heritability, evolvability, and the evolutionary pros and cons of male SSB will need to be conducted with other monkey species before scientists can acquire a "macroevolutionary understanding of such behaviours."

Dr. Clive and Dr. Sandel both also noted that scientists must be cautious to not extend the findings to humans without further evidence.

Dr. Sandel in particular said that while humans and monkeys might exhibit similar behaviours, human behaviour is also influenced by cultural and social norms.

Sayantan Datta (they/them) are a queer-trans freelance science writer, communicator and journalist. They currently work with the feminist multimedia science collective TheLifeofScience.com and tweet at @queersprings.



A superconducting cylinder of tin in a container filled with liquid helium and held between the poles of a magnet by the Meissner effect. PUBLIC DOMAIN

How to tell if a material is a superconductor

The Hindu Bureau

In the last week of July, researchers in South Korea said they had discovered that a material called LK-99 is a room-temperature superconductor. Scientists have been looking for such materials for several decades now for their ability to transport heavy currents without any loss – a property that could revolutionise a variety of industrial and medical applications.

Independent researchers will have to check whether LK-99 is really a room-temperature superconductor before it is accepted as legitimate. When a material becomes a superconductor, the superconducting state will induce four changes in the material. Spot all four and you have yourself a superconductor.

1: Electronic effect – The material will transport an electric current with zero resistance. This is hard to check when the sample of the material is very small, and requires sophisticated equipment.

2: Magnetic effect – A type I

Scientists have been looking for such materials for decades now for their ability to transport heavy currents without any loss – a property that could revolutionise industrial and medical applications

superconductor (a material that, in the right conditions, becomes a superconductor throughout its bulk) will expel a magnetic field from its body as long as the field strength is below a critical value. This is the Meissner effect: a magnet placed near the material will be pushed away as the material transitions to a superconducting state. A type II superconductor – which transitions through a mix of superconducting and non-superconducting states en route to becoming fully superconducting – won't expel magnetic fields but will prevent them from moving through its bulk. This phenomenon is called flux pinning. When a flux-pinned superconductor is taken away from a particular part of the magnetic field and put back in, it will snap back to its original relative position.

3: Thermodynamic effect – The electronic specific heat changes drastically at the superconducting transition temperature. The specific heat is the heat required to increase the temperature of the electrons in the material by 1 degree Celsius. As the material transitions to its superconducting state, the electronic specific heat drops. Upon warming the material back up to the critical temperature (below which the material is a superconductor), it jumps back to the value it was when the material was not superconducting.

4: Spectroscopic effect – The electrons in the material are forbidden from attaining certain energy levels, even if they could when the material wasn't a superconductor. When scientists create a map of all possible energy levels in a superconductor, they should see this as a 'gap'.

This article is about the two types of conventional superconductors – which are materials whose abilities can be explained using the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer theory of superconductivity. Scientists also know of many unconventional superconductors, but the origin of superconductivity in these materials remains a mystery.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Breastfeeding in the animal kingdom

Rebecca Rose Varghese

QUESTION 1
What is the first milk produced by mammary glands after giving birth called? Bonus: Name a famous Indian sweet food that is made from it.

QUESTION 2
What is the only species of arachnids known to have behaviour similar to that of mammalian lactation? That is, its newly hatched offspring depend entirely on milk to meet their nutritional needs.

QUESTION 3
While being of no practical use, the male body also has X. This happens because X are formed in the first weeks of gestation, when the male and female embryos follow the same blueprint, before the Y chromosome induces changes. Name X.

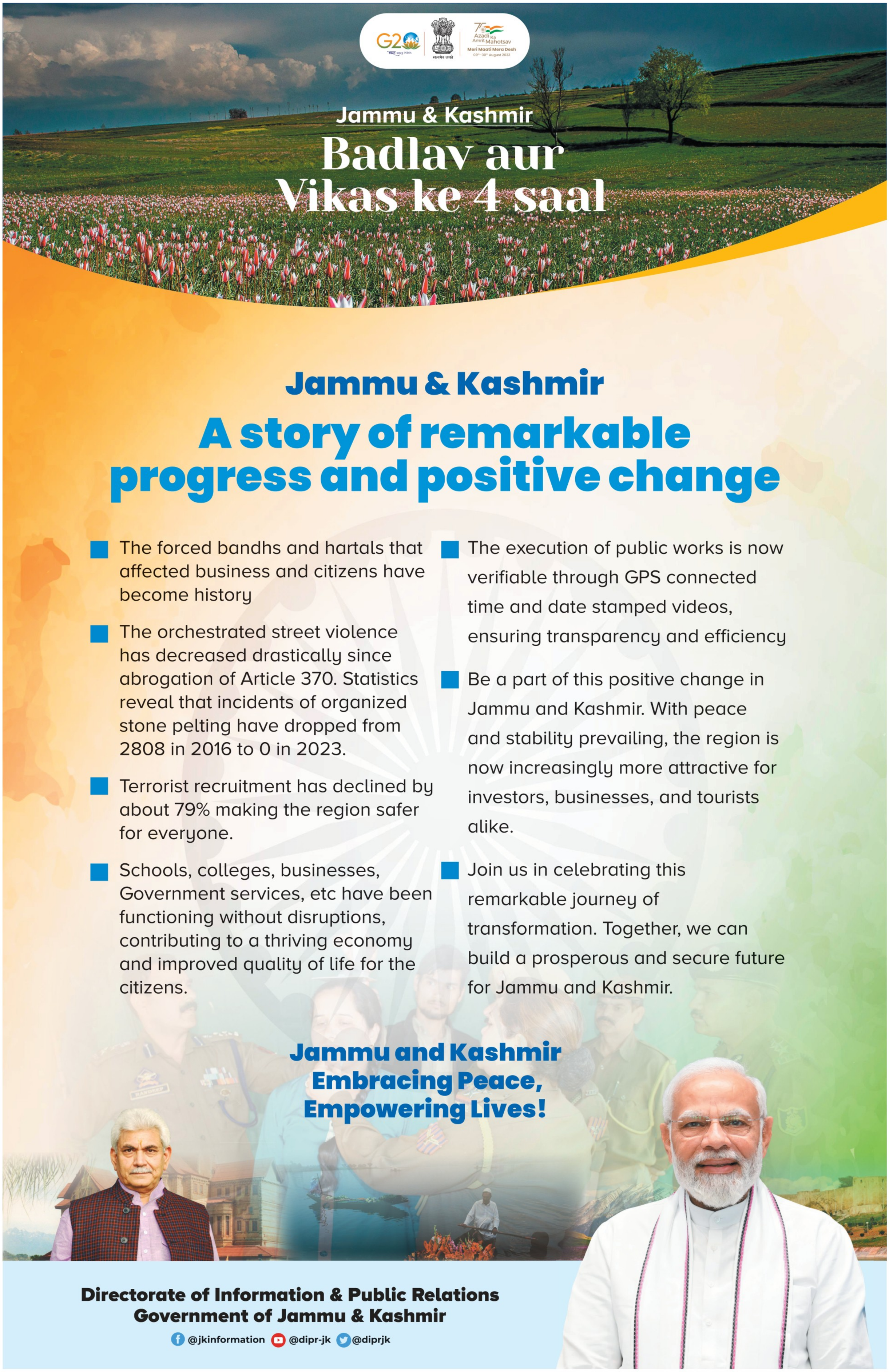
QUESTION 4
Name the only subclass of mammals that has mammary glands without teats and which nurse its offspring by pouring milk out of their mammary gland ducts.

QUESTION 5
Name the event and year in which the pink ribbons internationally associated with breast cancer awareness were first distributed to all breast-cancer survivors, and other participants, to spread awareness.

Answers to August 3 quiz:
1. The organisation that became ISRO in 1969 – **Ans: Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR)**
2. India's first satellite launched on its own rocket – **Ans: RS-1**
3. Rocket programme that had only one complete success, in 1994 – **Ans: ASLV**
4. District that hosts ISRO Propulsion Complex – **Ans: Tirunelveli**
5. Instrument onboard AstroSat to study 80-250 keV radiation – Ans: **Cadmium-Zinc-Telluride Imager**
Visual: **Prakrta**
First contact: Anmol Goel | Joseph Nelson | Anusha Tomar | Kamuju Phanindar | Dishanta Adhikari\

Visual: Name the American radiologist who pioneered the widespread clinical use of mammography as a screening technique for the identification of breast cancer.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'


G20
भारत 2023 INDIA
सत्यमेव जयते
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Meri Maati Mera Desh
09th–30th August 2023
Jammu & Kashmir
Badlav aur Vikas ke 4 saal
Jammu & Kashmir
A story of remarkable progress and positive change
The forced bandhs and hartals that affected business and citizens have become history
The orchestrated street violence has decreased drastically since abrogation of Article 370. Statistics reveal that incidents of organized stone pelting have dropped from 2808 in 2016 to 0 in 2023.
Terrorist recruitment has declined by about 79% making the region safer for everyone.
Schools, colleges, businesses, Government services, etc have been functioning without disruptions, contributing to a thriving economy and improved quality of life for the citizens.
The execution of public works is now verifiable through GPS connected time and date stamped videos, ensuring transparency and efficiency
Be a part of this positive change in Jammu and Kashmir. With peace and stability prevailing, the region is now increasingly more attractive for investors, businesses, and tourists alike.
Join us in celebrating this remarkable journey of transformation. Together, we can build a prosperous and secure future for Jammu and Kashmir.
Jammu and Kashmir
Embracing Peace,
Empowering Lives!
Directorate of Information & Public Relations
Government of Jammu & Kashmir
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Unused central fund under Jal Jeevan Mission with States

16,484 In Rs crore. Data shared by Minister of State for Jal Shakti showed that Maharashtra has ₹ 2,401 crore and Rajasthan ₹ 1,552 crore lying unused. PTI

Individuals reporting annual income of above ₹ 1 crore

1.69 In lakh. As per the tax return data filed in assessment year (AY) 2022-23, individuals who had declared an income of over ₹ 1 crore have doubled in the two years since AY 2020-21. PTI

Worth of NPAs written off by banks in the last nine financial years

14.56 in Rs. lakh crore. Minister of State for Finance informed that NPAs (non-performing assets) written-off loans of large industries stood at ₹ 7.40 lakh crore. PTI

Population of tigers in India in 2022, given ample protection

3,682 The population of tigers in the country was 1,411 in 2006, the Union Minister of Culture informed. The animal has been given protection from hunting. PTI

Forest land diverted under Forest Conservation Act

3 In lakh hectares. Under the Forest Conservation Act 1980, over three lakh hectares of forest land has been diverted for non-forestry use in India, said the Union Environment Minister. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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India's mining policy shift

Is India import-dependent for critical and deep-seated minerals? Why is it essential to get the private sector to explore these minerals? Has India's existing mining policy attracted private-sector investment? How does the Mines and Minerals Bill 2023 plan to do that?

EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

The story so far:

On August 2, Parliament passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023, in a bid to attract private sector investment in the exploration of critical and deep-seated minerals in the country. The Bill puts six minerals, including lithium – used in electric vehicle batteries and other energy storage solutions – into a list of "critical and strategic" minerals. The exploration and mining of these six minerals, previously classified as atomic minerals, were restricted to government-owned entities.

How much of India's critical minerals are imported?

A variety of minerals, besides those used in creating fuel, are crucial to a country's manufacturing, infrastructure, and advancement.

Moreover, the clean energy transitions of countries including India, seeking to meet their net-zero emission goals, are contingent on the availability of critical minerals such as lithium, which has also been called 'white gold', and others including cobalt, graphite, and rare earth elements (REEs). These are also crucial for the manufacture of semiconductors used in smart electronics; defence and aerospace equipment; telecommunication technologies and so on.

The lack of availability of such minerals or the concentration of their extraction or processing in a few geographical locations leads to import dependency, supply chain vulnerabilities, and even disruption of their supplies. For instance, China has majority ownership of cobalt mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where 70% of the world's cobalt is mined. China also has by far the largest amount of reserves of REEs of any country in the world, followed by Vietnam, Brazil and Russia.

Major economies including the U.S., U.K., and the European Union in the recent past have moved to secure supply-chain resilience for such minerals and to reduce reliance for their availability on countries like China.

The Ministry of Mines, in June this year, came out with a list of 30 minerals critical to the country's economic development and national security. However, India is highly dependent on imports for a majority of minerals on this list. For instance, as per figures quoted by the Ministry, India is 100% import-dependent on countries including China, Russia, Australia, South Africa, and the U.S. for the supply of critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, niobium, beryllium, and tantalum.

Also for deep-seated minerals like gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, nickel, cobalt, platinum group elements (PGEs) and diamonds, which are difficult and expensive to explore and mine as compared to surficial or bulk minerals, India depends largely on imports. For instance, in 2022-23, India imported close to 12 lakh tonnes of copper (and its concentrates) worth over ₹ 27,000 crore as per official figures.

Why is private sector vital for critical minerals exploration?

Studies by organisations such as the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research and the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) note that India's unique geological and tectonic setting is conducive to hosting potential mineral resources and that its geological history is similar to the mining-rich regions of Western Australia and Eastern Africa.

The Bill aims to attract private sector investment in exploring critical and deep-seated minerals. AFP

The primary step to discovering mineral resources and eventually finding economically viable reserves is mineral exploration, which comes in various stages before mining. The stages of exploration are divided as per the United Nations Framework for Classification of Resources into G4 (Reconnaissance), G3 (Prospecting), G2 (General Exploration), and G1 (Detailed Exploration).

Notably, it is estimated that India has explored just 10% of its Obvious Geological Potential (OGP), less than 2% of which is mined and the country spends less than 1% of the global mineral exploration budget. Not many significant mineral discoveries have taken place in the country in the last couple of decades and a majority of exploration projects have been carried out by the government agency Geological Survey of India and other Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) like Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), with very little private sector participation.

India's mining policy had kept greenfield exploration of minerals out of the purview of private-sector explorers for some years which meant they could only get licences to further prospect and mine resources that had been explored by a government entity. Companies also saw a lack of adequate incentives.

Exploration requires techniques like aerial surveys, geological mapping, and geochemical analyses and is a highly specialised, time-intensive and monetarily risky operation with less than 1% of explored projects becoming commercially viable mines.

Union Minister of Mines Pralhad Joshi pointed out that while Indian PSUs were in a relatively better position to explore surficial and bulk minerals like coal and iron ore, they had not fared well when it came to deep-seated and critical minerals owing to the high expenditure and long duration of risky projects while being under pressure to increase the supply of bulk minerals. He mentioned that the new Bill seeks to bring exploration processes in India at par with that of developed countries by getting private sector capacity into exploration, giving the example of Australia.

In Australia and multiple other jurisdictions globally, private mining firms called junior explorers, engage in risk-taking by putting their expertise and limited financials into explorations to find potential mines. Once discovered, these private companies can sell these to bigger mining companies who then develop and run these mines. This helps multiply exploration projects and accelerate the pace of exploration owing to private participation.

Is India's mining policy conducive to private participation?

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act), 1957, the primary legislation governing mining in the country has been amended several times since its enactment including recently in 2015, 2020, and 2021. A CSEP discussion from June this year notes that India recognised the need for private and foreign investment in the mining sector including mineral exploration back in 1993, amending the Act next year to allow interested parties to apply for mineral concessions through a First Come First Served (FCFS) basis. Later, private companies could also get Prospecting Licences (PL) or Mining Leases (ML), and could even apply for early-stage or greenfield exploration through Reconnaissance Permits (RPs).

In the early 2010s, as the mining industry seemed to be gathering momentum, concerns about favouritism and misuse started coming up in the allocation of 2G spectrum and natural resources like coal blocks and the Supreme Court intervened.

In 2015, the MMDR Act was amended to allow private companies to participate in government auctions for Mining Leases and Composite Licences (CLs). However, due to the Evidence of Mineral content (EMT) rule, only government-explored projects were auctioned, limiting private sector involvement. The amendment also permitted private firms to register as exploration agencies, with the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) funding for G4 to G1 exploration, but private participation remained limited.

How does the Mines and Minerals Bill 2023 aim to encourage private players?

Firstly, the Bill omits at least six previously mentioned atomic minerals from a list of 12 which cannot be commercially mined. Being on the atomic minerals list, the exploration and mining of these six – lithium, beryllium, niobium, titanium, tantalum and zirconium, was previously reserved for government entities. Secondly, the Act prohibits pitting, trenching, drilling, and sub-surface excavation as part of reconnaissance, which included mapping and surveys. The Bill allows these prohibited activities.

The Bill also proposes a new type of licence to encourage reconnaissance – level and or prospective stage exploration by the private sector.

This exploration licence (EL), for a period of five years (extendable by two years), will be granted by the State government by way of competitive bidding. In these auctions, eligible explorers would bid on their desired percentage share of the auction premium which will be paid eventually by a mining lease holder up the sale of a successfully explored mine by the State government. The lowest bid by an explorer would win the EL auction. This licence will be issued for 29 minerals specified in the Seventh Schedule of the amended Act, which would include critical, strategic, and deep-seated minerals.

It also specifies the maximum area for exploration; activities in up to 1,000 sq km will be allowed under a single exploration licence. It also states that the licencee will be allowed to retain up to 25% of the originally authorised area after the first three years after submitting a report to the State government stating reasons for retention of the area.

While most auctions are reserved for State governments in the Act, the Bill also reserves the conduct of auctions for composite licence and mining lease for specified critical and strategic minerals for the central government.

What are some of the possible issues with the Bill's proposals?

Industry experts and organisations like CSEP had pointed out certain issues and made recommendations on the proposed amendments.

The primary way of generating revenue for a private company that has an exploration licence would be a share of the premium paid by the miner, which would come only after a successfully discovered mine is auctioned and operationalised. Trends show that such a process could take years to materialise owing to government timelines for clearances or may not happen at all considering depending on the complexity of the deposit and geography.

The CSEP mentions the example of the Ghorabhurani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Mine, a greenfield captive mine, which was auctioned in 2016. Even though it was a bulk mineral, production started only in late 2021, taking close to six years to receive the necessary clearances.

The explorer would not know how much revenue they will receive as the auction premium would be known only when a mine is successfully auctioned.

Vedanta Group economist Dhiraj Nayyar, in an *Economic Times* piece, pointed out another issue with the auction method of allocation for exploration licences. He points out that while it's feasible to auction something that has a known value (like a spectrum or a discovered mineral deposit), it is difficult to auction something for which exploration has not begun.

Besides, in its 2012 ruling, the Supreme Court had observed that since big capital investments go into discovering natural resources through exploration and mining contracts, companies would only want to spend big amounts if they're assured of utilising any discovered resources. In the new policy, only the government can auction what an explorer has discovered and the latter would only get a share of the premium at an unknown stage. This is unlike other global jurisdictions where private explorers can sell their discoveries to miners.

THE GIST

- The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023, passed by India's Parliament, aims to attract private sector investment in exploring critical and deep-seated minerals in the country.
- Six minerals, including lithium, have been reclassified as "critical and strategic" minerals, making them eligible for exploration and mining by private entities. Previously, these minerals were restricted to government-owned entities.
- India's dependency on imports for critical and deep-seated minerals has been a concern, leading to supply chain vulnerabilities and import dependencies from countries like China, Russia, and Australia.
- The lack of private sector participation in mineral exploration has hindered India's ability to discover and develop economically viable reserves.

From Page One

State forms 4 teams to probe works awarded during BJP government

Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru division, Amlan Aditya Biswas was earlier ordered to probe the fake bill scam pertaining to projects in RR Nagar zone. While the SITs for solid waste management and storm water drains have four members each, SITs for road development and lake development have six members each.

The SITs will examine whether the projects taken up in the last three years adhere to statutory compliances. For instance, projects related to storm water drain need permission from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, and development near lakes should be approved by the Lake Development Authority. The teams have been asked by the government to check whether BBMP, or Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd., followed KTPP Act and sought approval from the State Government in connection with waste collection contracts.

Sources in the BSWML say that some NGOs looted money in the guise of training ragpickers and running Dry Waste Collection Centres, which is likely to be unearthed during the investigation.

The SITs have been asked to check for violation of KTPP Act, handing out tenders to ineligible bidders, and unlawful relaxation of rules during evaluation of bids. All annual financial transactions submitted by contractors during the tender process will be examined by the SITs, besides looking into certificate of experience. Any transfer of funds from the government to accounts of individuals, who are not involved in the contract, will be probed. The government has instructed the teams to check for spending exorbitant amount of money for maintenance despite huge amounts spent during execution of the work, and sanctioning of works which were unnecessary.

The SITs will examine whether proposals were altered, and inspect if sanctioned projects were executed correctly. The SIT will examine loss incurred, if any, to Town Planning Department while approving building plans for apartment complexes, commercial complexes, and others.

The loss incurred by the BBMP due to laying of Optical Fibre Cables without permission of the civic body will be probed. The SITs will inspect all executed projects for quality. A senior official in the BBMP said the probe will be comprehensive.

Tunnel roads: DKS wants more firms to participate in project

Only two companies have shown interest in the 'EI' floated by BBMP on building the proposed roads, says Bengaluru Development Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

D.K. Shivakumar

The project entails converting the proposed 99-km-long elevated corridor network criss-crossing the city into tunnel roads

Amidst allegations of the project being no answer to the city's traffic problems, Deputy Chief Minister (Dy.CM) and Bengaluru Development Minister on Monday said only two companies had shown interest in the Expression of Interest (EI) floated by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on building the proposed tunnel roads. Mr. Shivakumar said the deadline will be extended to encourage more participation.

The announcements came on a day when a private company made a presentation on the project to Mr. Shivakumar at an event that was not open to the media.

Cost of project

The project is one of the Congress government's most contentious - of converting the proposed 99-km-long elevated corridor network criss-crossing the city into tunnel roads. Expected to cost nearly ₹50,000 crore, the government is looking at implementing it on a public-private-partnership (PPP) mode.

Aecom, an international consultancy firm that has worked on multiple tunnel road projects across the world and had also prepared the Detailed Project Report for the elevated corridor network project in 2017, had made a proposal for the tunnel network project last month.

The tunnel roads along a different alignment and elevated corridor network projects were first proposed by K.J. George when he was Bengaluru Development Minister in the earlier Congress regime, attracting the ire of civic activists and mobility experts. With the proposal making it to the Congress manifesto for the 2023 Assembly polls and now making significant strides towards implementation, objections are being raised again by the public. Many have termed it a "tunnel vision" and a result of "short sightedness."

'Develop multi-modal infrastructure'

Sandeep Anirudhan, citizen activist, said the kind of money that the government estimates to spend on this tunnel project can instead be spent on developing an entire multi-modal infrastructure for Bengaluru, which includes mass rapid transit, metros, suburban, more buses, last and first-mile connectivity, cycling lanes, pedestrianisation, etc., and can make Bengaluru a "truly international city."

Citing pending bills, BBMP contractors stop ongoing projects, maintenance work

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Contractors claim that they are reeling under debt due to non-payment of dues

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) contractors halted all ongoing civic projects and maintenance work on Monday in protest against the civic body not clearing pending bills of executed works.

Contractors were allegedly not paid for the last three years despite multiple letters to BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath seeking payment.

Mr. Giri Nath has been maintaining that the government has directed the BBMP to stop payments, and he can release payments only after the government issues a fresh order. Contractors claim that they are reeling under debt due to non-payment of dues.

BBMP Contractors' Association president K.T. Manjunath told *The Hindu*, "Despite ₹2,000 crore tax money for 2023-24 period lying with the civic body and the previous government transferring ₹650 crore, the civic body is sitting on the money."

After the new government was formed, contractors held deliberations with the Minister concerned, but payments are not being released, forcing them into debt. "All projects have been stopped, including maintenance. Work will be resumed only after payment," he said.

Office-bearers of the BBMP Contractors' Association met former Cief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and sought his help in getting bills cleared for work undertaken by them in the last 26 months. Mr. Kumaraswamy assured of taking part in a dharna along with them.

Two detained for harassing techie over road rage in Whitefield

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Whitefield police detained two people who allegedly harassed a techie and his wife on the pretext of road rage in Ramgondanahalli, Whitefield main road, on Saturday.

The victim, Priyum Dutta, 35, was driving home when the accused confronted his car and tried to stop it thrice on the pretext of road rage. The accused allegedly hurled abuses and pelted stones, damaging the windshield.

Mr. Dutta managed to escape from the situation but the entire incident was caught on the dashboard camera. He later put out a video on social media narrating his ordeal, which went viral.

The social media wing of the city police took cognizance and asked the Whitefield police to take action. The Whitefield police have registered a case against the duo charging them with wrongful restraint, attempt to murder, intentional insult to provoke breach of peace, and mischief against them.

The police have identified the accused and detained two suspects.

Batteries of traffic cameras stolen

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three batteries of B-track enforcement cameras at the busy Bhashyam Circle junction in Bengaluru have allegedly been stolen. The batteries were allegedly stolen on July 14.

The theft came to light when the camera network engineer at the Traffic Management Centre (TMC) visited the site on August 3. He informed the policeman on duty that the enforcement cameras were defunct.

Assistant Traffic Sub-Inspector Narayana T.L., attached to Sadashivanagar station who was on duty, went along with the engineer Rakshith to inspect the junction box. They saw that three batteries, worth ₹8,000, were missing. Based on a complaint, the Sadashivanagar police registered a case of theft.

Similarly, six more batteries of enforcement cameras installed at Dr .Rajkumar road 17th cross bridge junction were stolen on May 31. Nanjaiah M., ASI, Malleshwaram traffic station complained to Rajajinagar police that the TMC network engineer found that batteries worth ₹27,000 were stolen.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM NO. 1, Date : 02.08.2023 to

E-Tender Notice No. SNTPBBS-022023-IPMPLS, Date of uploading Tender : 27.07.2023

The corrigendum / changes / modification has been made against the above mentioned tender notice as below :

Sl. No. 1 : **Read as : 18.i Deleted,**
Sl. No. 2 : **Read as : 18.iv Certification for LER and LSR as per relevant TEC ER is necessary.**

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

The tenderers who have downloaded the tender forms required to take note of the above corrigendum.

For details, the intending tenderer(s) are advised to visit the website : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer (T & NW), Bhubaneswar
PR - 424/O/23-24

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. SANDT_WAT_23_S_ZONAL_JDB

NAME OF WORK : SIGNAL ZONAL WORK UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER / SIGNAL / JAGDALPUR IN WALTAIR DIVISION.

Advertised Value (₹) : 37,37,441.80, EMD (₹) : 74,800.00, Period of Completion : 12 Months.

Bidding Start Date : 08.08.2023,

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1500 Hrs. of 22.08.2023

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-Tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer / Waltair
PR-421/O/23-24

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Salem Division

E-TENDER NOTICE No. GEM/2023/B/3774362 Dated: 03.08.2023

For and on behalf of the President of India The Divisional Railway Manager / Electrical / Salem-5 invites E-Tender for the under mentioned works. Online bids only will be accepted. For detailed NIT, qualification criteria, bidding document, tender submission etc., can be viewed / downloaded from website portal **www.gem.gov.in**.

Name of Work : 1) Monthly Basis Cab & Taxi Hiring Services - SUV; 2500 km x 320 hours; Outstation; **Details:** Approx.cost:₹ **10,08,000/-;** EMD: ₹ **20,160/-;** Completion Period : **24 Months;** For all the works Closing Time & Date : **10.00 hrs. on 16.08.2023;** For all the works Bids Opening Time & Date: **10.30 hrs on 16.08.2023.**

All Addendum / Corrigendum, Time extension, Clarifications, etc., will be uploaded in the website portal **www.gem.gov.in** only and will not be published separately in Newspapers. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. SANDT_FOIS_BHNS_KMEZ-PVP

NAME OF WORK : 1. PROVISION OF FOIS CONNECTIVITY AND ISOLATION OF WEIGH RAILS AT LINE NO. 1 OF PVP STATION IN CONNECTION WITH INTEGRATION OF 01 NO. OF ELECTRONIC - IN - MOTION WEIGH BRIDGE IN RV LINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 2. PROVISION OF FOIS CONNECTIVITY AT BHANSI ON K.K.LINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 3. S&T PORTION OF WORK IN CONNECTION WITH FOIS CONNECTIVITY AT KUMHAR MARENGA ON K.K.LINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION. 4. PROVISION OF FOIS CONNECTIVITY AT 02 NOS. OF IN-MOTION RAIL WEIGH BRIDGES, NMDC, NAGARNAR.

Advertised Value (₹) : 14,61,084.09, EMD (₹) : 29,200.00, Period of Completion : 06 Months.

Bidding Start Date : 08.08.2023,

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1630 Hrs. of 22.08.2023

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-Tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer / Waltair
PR-422/O/23-24

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

GATI SHAKTI UNIT / SALEM DIVISION

E-TENDER NOTICE No. SA-E6-2023-24-W1 and SA-GSU-OT-2023-32-33

For and on behalf of the President of India The Divisional Railway Manager / Electrical / Salem Division, Salem-5 Invites E-Tender for the under mentioned works. Online bids only will be accepted. For detailed NIT, qualification criteria, bidding document, tender submission etc., can be viewed / downloaded from website portal **www.ireps.gov.in.**

E-Tender Notice No, Date and Name of Work	Details
1) SA-E6-2023-24-W1 Dated: 05.08.2023 SA Division - Annual Repair Contract (ARC) for 3 Nos of Omega make Lifts available at ED PF 1/2 (EL-201520400), TUP PF 3/4 (EL-201520401) and CBE PF 3/4 (EL-201621524) for a period of 3 years	Approx. cost - ₹ **328746.21/-** EMD - ₹ **6600.00/-** Completion Period - **36 Months**
2) SA-GSU-OT-2023-32 Dated: 05.08.2023 SA Division: Provision of solar power plants of various capacities for 15 stations at CBF, PTJ, TUP, ED, KRR, NMKL, SA, BQI, MAP, SLY, TPT, CHSM over salem division under Amrit Bharat station Scheme - Electrical Arrangements.	Approx. cost - ₹ **6690720.00/-** EMD - ₹ **133800.00/-** Completion Period - **6 Months**
3) SA-GSU-OT-2023-33 Dated: 05.08.2023 SA Division - Power supply arrangements for Escalators on Railway Platforms over Indian Railways under Amrit Bharat Station-4 nos (SA-2 nos, MTP-2 nos).	Approx. cost - ₹ **28,76,410.00/-** EMD - ₹ **57,500.00/-** Completion Period - **6 Months**
For all the works Closing Time & Date	**15.00 hrs. on 04.09.2023**
For all the works Bids Opening Time & Date	**15.30 hrs. on 04.09.2023**

All Addendum / Corrigendum, Time extension, Clarifications, etc. will be uploaded in the website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** only and will not be published separately in Newspapers. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

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BRAHMAPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Court Road, Courtpeta, Brahmapur, Ganjam, Odisha, Pin-760004
www.bdabrahmapur.in, email: bedaengineers@gmail.com; Phone No.0680 2292797

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT - Invitation for Bids (IFB)
No. 649 / BeDA(Engg.), Dt.02.08.2023

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crore)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion	Availability of Bid Document for Online Bidding From	To	Name & Address of Officer Inviting Bid
1.	Renovation & Construction of DHH City Hospital under 5T Transformation (Ama Hospital) at Brahmapur	EM-BeDA-35/ 2023-24	2.44	"B" or equivalent	03 (Three) Calendar Months	07.08.2023 10.00 Hours	22.08.2023 17.30 Hours	Engineer Member, Brahmapur Development Authority, Courtpeta, Brahmapur - 760004
2.	Renovation & Construction of SDH Hospital under 5T Transformation (Ama Hospital) at Chatrapur	EM-BeDA-36/ 2023-24	2.39	"B" or equivalent	03 (Three) Calendar Months	07.08.2023 10.00 Hours	22.08.2023 17.30 Hours	
3.	Renovation & Construction of CHC Hospital under 5T Transformation (Ama Hospital) at Keluapalli.	EM-BeDA-37/ 2023-24	1.22	"B" or equivalent	03 (Three) Calendar Months	07.08.2023 10.00 Hours	22.08.2023 17.30 Hours	

●All Corrigendum and addenda shall be published in official website only. ●The Bidder shall have to participate in **ON LINE** bidding only. ● Late date for seeking clarification - **Dt.17.08.2023 up to 17.30 Hours.** ● Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal **www.tendersorissa.gov.in** and **www.bdabrahmapur.in** ● Tender shall be opened online on **Dt.23.08.2023 at 11.00 Hours.**

CAD-1582: ENGINEER MEMBER, Brahmapur Development Authority, Brahmapur. OIPR-13086/11/0006/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : SUNDARGARH
AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com

No.Tender Online – RWCCESNG-14 of 2023-24, Letter No.2076 /Dtd.05.08.2023

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Type of the Work : **Bridge (BSY)**
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Estimated Cost : As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure
6. Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG-14 of 2023-24	11.08.2023 11:00 AM	28.08.2023 5:00 PM	25.08.2023 5:00 PM	29.08.2023 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

● Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh.
O-553: OIPR-25133/11/0022/2324

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, N.R. Square, Annex Building-3, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: DCF/PR/706/2023-24 Date: 07-08-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the Citizens of Bengaluru, that the **Joint General Manager / Proects, Rail Land Development Authority, Bengaluru** has submitted an application to the undersigned for removal of trees standing at **Geeta Sar Garden Premises, Mahatma Gandhi Railway Colony Area, Subash Nagar, Bengaluru for Construction of 132 Nos. of Railway Quarters.** The details are given below:

Name of the Project	Construction of 132 Nos. Railway Quarters.			
Name of the Agency	Rail Land Development Authority, Bengaluru.			
Purpose for Removal of Tree	The trees are standing inside M.G. Railway Colony Area, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru which are coming within the project area for Construction of 132 Nos. of Railway Quarters.			
Description of the area with clear demarcation of boundaries or with GPS readings	Boundary	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)	Location
	1	12 58 39.82	77 33 56.31	Boundary of Geetha Sar Garden Premises, M.G. Railway Colony, Subashnagar, Bengaluru.
	2	12 58 39.69	77 33 59.45	
	3	12 58 38.54	77 33 59.33	
	4	12 58 38.43	77 33 56.10	
Enumeration of Trees • Total no. of trees standing in the project area	129 Nos (Annexure-1)		Description of Trees, Species, Location, Area, etc., are uploaded in the website of BBMP for information of all **(www.bbmp.gov.in)**	
• Total no. of trees proposed to be removed	129 Nos (Annexure-1)			
Mode of Communication of Comments (Public can send their comments either by E-mail / Post / Hand)	**Address:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests & Tree Officer, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. E-mail Id: **dcfbbmp12@gmail.com/rldabangalore2022@gmail.com*** * Comments communicated directly to ACP, should also be marked a copy to the Tree-Officer/DCF, BBMP			
Deadline for filing Objections	Ten (10) days from the date of publication of this notification in Newspaper * **Objections / Comments / Suggestions should be relevant and specific to the project.**			

In view of the above, the suggestions / objections / comments are invited from citizens under Section 8 (3) (vii) of the Karnataka Preservation of Tree Act, 1976.

Sd/- Tree Officer
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
BBMP, Bengaluru.

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2023 (OJEE-2023)

No: OJEE2023 / 385 Date: 06-08-2023

NOTICE

It is for information of all candidates having OJEE 2023 rank under Integrated MBA and registered for counselling process during 16-07-2023 to 20-07-2023 have to report at OJEE Cell Gandamunda, Bhubaneswar on **09-08-2023** for counselling and admission.

For other details and instructions for admission process candidates are requested to visit OJEE website: **https://ojee.nic.in, www.odishajee.com**

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE

h-19 OIPR-14020/11/0017/2324

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED

BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA, PIN:751012, Tel No.(0674) 2562020,
e-Mail: theocclltd@odishaconstruction.com - GSTIN - 21AAACO2571K2ZM

"e"-Procurement Notice No.27/OCCL/2023-24 (on-line)

On-line percentage rate tenders are invited for the following works:

Sl No.	Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Approx. Value of work (Rs. In Crores)	Bid Security (through on-line transfer) (in Rs.)	Period of Completion	Availability of Tender (on-line)	Submission of tender (on-line)
01	Improvement and black topping of Canal Service Road of Jeypore Main Canal from RD 49.50 Km to 58.835 Km and off-taking distributaries under UKI Division, Borigumma.	OCCL-TSP/11/ 2023-24	Rs.30.81 Crore	Rs.30,81,000/-	12 (twelve) Calendar months	From 09.08.2023, 3.30 PM to 23.08.2023, 5.30 PM.	From 09.08.2023, 3.30 PM to 23.08.2023, 5.30 PM.
02	Improvement and black topping of road at Satiguda Dam and road from Ghataghumar to Kolabnagar under UKHW Division, Kolabnagar.	OCCL-TSP/12/ 2023-24	Rs.8.57 Crore	Rs.8,57,000/-	9 (nine) Calendar months	From 09.08.2023, 3.30 PM to 23.08.2023, 5.30 PM.	From 09.08.2023, 3.30 PM to 23.08.2023, 5.30 PM.

Procurement Officer : Managing Director, OCCL
Date of Opening of the Technical Bid : 24.08.2023, 12.00 Noon onwards.
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal : https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in

MANAGING DIRECTOR
CAD-1588 OIPR-34120/11/0037/2324

CACHE

GETTY IMAGES

Generative AI startup bubble: a cause for worry or opportunity?

Venture capitalists are showing interest in generative AI startups, with several companies securing multi-million dollar deals and significant valuations. However, there are concerns about a potential bubble in the generative AI space

Poulomi Chatterjee

A month ago, generative AI startup Typeface raised $100 million at a valuation of $1 billion. Around the same time, French startup Mistral AI received $113 million funding without a working product in sight.

Separately, media reports revealed open-source platform Hugging Face raised $200 million at a $4 billion valuation.

Such multi-million dollar deals reveal a rare spot of joy for venture capitalists facing a dwindling startup market. While interest in startups building AI products has grown among VCs in the light of OpenAI's ChatGPT, some see a bubble in the making.

"Generative AI is in a bubble. And this time the wrong assumption is that generative AI is either the product or the innovation," said Vin Vashishta, founder of data consulting firm V Squared.

No wonder VCs have their ears to the ground and stick to the basics.

"We think of AI startups in five layers: hardware infra, software infrastructure, foundational models, data assets, and end-user applications. Our primary interest is in hardware infra and data assets - we don't feel the other 3 layers are particularly conducive to small-cheque, seed-stage investing," Sheetal Bahl, partner at Merak Ventures said.

There is genuine interest coupled with wariness, Bahl explained stating, "There's a lot of froth, and misrepresentation. Like one couldn't make a cup of chai without using blockchain two years ago, it seems one can't do that without Gen AI now. So yes, there is a huge bubble in the making and in two years many people will look back and lament their impetuousness once more."

AI startups and failures

While any startup venture is plagued with failures, in the case of Gen AI-focused startups, the failure rate will be even higher as a large number of founders and investors are participating in the AI ecosystem, said Swathi Dhamodaran, Associate at Trifecta Growth Equity.

"Startups that haven't proven themselves in various ways will be vetted out," she said. Some may run out of capital, and others may not find the right product market fit, she added.

In evaluating AI startups, Damodaran "analyses the quality and amount of time spent by the founding team on problem statement, the strength of their network to find experienced talent on a broad front." On the product and distribution front, there are other details thoroughly looked into, including whether there is any proprietary data, the ease of acquiring data, model accuracy, how fluent and necessary the use-case is and the market for it.

"While it is early to talk about metrics like customer acquisition and sales cycle before the company gathers at least 50 customers, it is indicative of the urgency of the customer to find a solution and their propensity to pay and implement the solution, " she added.

Treading cautiously

"It still remains to be seen where the real-world value will be in the generative AI startup space once their novelty is gone," said Christian Cantrell, former VP, Product at Stability AI, and now founder of a generative AI startup.

"It's easy to do a demo but it's something else entirely to build a product around it."

In Cantrell's experience, VCs are displaying more caution than usual because of these reasons.

"Nobody wants to get into a crypto situation again, so they are being probably more conservative than usual because it's still unclear where the money will accrue eventually," he added.

But in the catchall that generative AI has come to indicate, there are some that will inevitably rake in a lot. "Parties like NVIDIA or AWS Sagemaker are the ones guaranteed to make money, because they are the hardware part in the equation," Cantrell said.

There will also be some exceptions on the research side.

"If a handful of noted researchers are working on foundation models like GPT (like Anthropic AI), then they will probably raise a few million dollars easily because everyone wants to desperately replicate what OpenAI has done," he explained.

And what of the spate of product companies that have mushroomed?

'Growing space'

Cantrell believes that, at the moment, generative AI is the most useful in the growing enterprise-productivity space.

"Generative AI tools are very good at analysing and interpreting, so their usage is more defined there. When it comes to creativity, its less clear where generative AI tools like image generators, etc. will find actual value, because creative professionals usually have a very specific vision in mind that they want to realise.

Having said that, there's a lot that depends on how teams want to incorporate these tools. But the few investments that have been made recently in AI product startups, are very good in my opinion and very well deserved," he noted.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Revolutionary poet, balladeer and anti-caste activist Gaddar passed away in Hyderabad on August 6. Here is a quiz on the man who was one of the most prominent faces of the Telangana movement

Abhinaya. K

QUESTION 1

Gaddar was associated with this Telugu film director and even penned a song for his movie Maa Bhoomi. The director is also said to have gifted B.R. Ambedkar's 'Annihilation of Caste' that shaped his thinking.
Name the director.

QUESTION 2

The activist survived an assassination attempt, when five bullets were fired at him in his house. A bullet was lodged near his spine. In which year did this incident happen?

QUESTION 3

In June, Gaddar had floated a political party and intended to contest the Telangana Assembly election, slated for the end of the year.
Identify the political party.

QUESTION 4

A book of Gaddar's poems was translated to English by this writer who is also a poet and has campaigned for women's rights. Speaking to *The Hindu,* she described Gaddar as first and foremost a bard of the revolution, a harbinger of change.
Name the translator and the book.

Visual Question: In 2019, the poet was presented an award named after an activist who had founded the Civic Rights Committee in 1960s to fight in Hyderabad Municipal elections. Identify the activist

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The atom bomb was dropped over Hiroshima, aimed straight for the ____ _____. Fill in the blanks. **Ans: Aioi Bridge**
2. This B-29 aircraft carried photography equipment. **Ans: *Necessary Evil***
3. In '_____ ___', the informal name of the type used against Hiroshima, one subcritical mass of fissile material is shot into another. Fill in the blanks. **Ans: Little Boy**
4. The Japanese government recognised Tsutomu Yamaguchi as the first niju hibakusha. Explain this distinction. **Ans: People who survived two nuclear explosions**
5. Name the two other cities that the U.S. government had shortlisted to attack with nuclear weapons. **Ans: Kokura and Niigata**
Visual: Name the photographer. **Ans: Yoshito Matsushige**
Early Birds: Prashant Kalbende | Suresh Kumar | Major Amandeep Godara

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

Sir, Ms. B. L. N. Kumari, Bengaluru, wants to know the difference between 'similar and 'identical'."

"When two things are similar, they resemble each other. They are not the same, but they are almost alike. These two are similar triangles. Identical' means the same', 'exactly alike', 'agreeing In a" respects'. When two things are identical, they are exactly the same in every respect. He and his friend are occupying identical positions. These two signatures are identical."

"Sir, Mr. A. Brito, Indiranagar, Bengaluru, wants to know the difference between 'a most beautiful' and 'the most beautiful.

"'This is the most beautiful exhibit' means that there is no exhibit more beautiful than this. When 'most' is preceded by 'a', it carries the sense of 'very'. This is a most useful tool for automobile mechanics. Even without the article, in certain contexts, it means 'very', 'exceedingly'.

She is most charming, it is most dangerous.

Let me discuss some other uses of 'most'. It is used to mean the majority of, 'the larger part of most Englishmen are rather reserved. Most people don't trust politicians. 'At most' or 'at the most' or 'at the very most' mean' 'not more than'. I can stay with you at the most for 10 days. I can pay you ₹30 at the most. You may expect at most 30 people at the meeting. 'Make the most of' means 'use to the best advantage'. This is a rare opportunity for you. Make the most of it. We must make the most of the few hours we shall be together. 'For the most part' means "generally' , 'usually'. His behaviour for the most part was good. For the most part, they are a nice spot."

"Sir, Mr. V. P. Mohan Kumar, Sundarapuram, Anna Nagar East, wants to know the meaning of the word 'freelance'.'

"A freelance is a journalist, photographer, etc. who doesn't work for any organisation and earns his living by selling his services'.

She is a freelance journalist.
I am a freelance.

'Freelance' can be used as a noun, adjective adverb or verb. He is freelancing. She works freelance. 'Freelancer' is also used as a noun.''

"Sir, Ms. K R. Singh. Jabalpur wants to know the difference between 'blatant' and 'flagrant'."

"Both are concerned with undesirable behaviour. 'Blatant' means 'coarsely and conspicuously obvious, unashamed'. It was a blatant lie. He is a blatant liar. 'Flagrant' means 'conspicuously shocking and outrageous', it is used of actions rather than persons and carries a strong suggestion of moral disapproval, it was a flagrant: violation of human rights."

"Sir, several readers want to know why you didn't discuss the expression 'out of question' when you gave the meaning of 'out of the question."

" 'Out of question' was once used in the sense of 'undoubtedly', it is hardly ever used these days. You won't find 'out of question' in recent dictionaries. Generally, I don't discuss archaic expressions."

Published in The Hindu on December 13, 1988

Word of the day

Inculcate:
teach and impress by frequent repetitions

Synonyms: instil, implant, inspire, induce

Usage: *It's time to inculcate values into the young generation.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/inculcatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ínkəlkɛjt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Rapid survey highlights lack of access to free medicines in govt. hospitals in 12 dists.

Survey by SAAK finds patients visiting government hospitals spend an average of ₹433 per visit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A rapid survey by Sarvatrika Arogya Andolana Karnataka (SAAK), has found that patients visiting government hospitals are spending an average ₹433 per visit out-of-pocket to buy medicines.

SAAK is a network of various civil society and progressive organisations, workers' unions, activists, and researchers working for the health rights of people.

The survey done through oral enquiry with 600 patients in pharmacies outside government hospitals in 12 districts, found that overall these patients had spent ₹2,58,809 on buying medicines during the survey period from July 1 to July 19. Giving details about the survey, SAAK members Manohar Elavarthi, Nisha Gulur, and Prasanna Saligram said irrespective of the type of facility and the geography, prescriptions are being written by government doctors and people are forced to purchase the medicines out-of-pocket.

The survey was done through oral enquiry with 600 patients in pharmacies outside government hospitals in 12 districts. FILE PHOTO

"During the survey period, our members spent half an hour at pharmacies outside government healthcare facilities randomly chosen in the 12 districts - Kolar, Dharwad, Davangere, Ballari, Bidar, Hassan, Kalaburagi, Vijayanagar,, Bengaluru Urban, Belagavi, Chickballapur, and Chikkamagaluru. We spoke to patients who came out of the hospital directly to the pharmacy. The spending on medicines ranged between ₹ 433 and ₹ 1,800 per visit by the patients surveyed. The highest out-of-pocket expenditure for patients was found in Bengaluru hospitals," said Mr. Elavarthi.

Mr. Saligram demanded that the government should take concrete steps to effectively implement free access to medicines in its true spirit on the lines of Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation. "What is the purpose of having government hospitals if patients are forced to buy even basic medicines from outside? The Tamil Nadu government's measures should be emulated in Karnataka without any delay," he said.

"The government should commit to enacting 'Right to Health Care' legislation in Karnataka on the lines of Rajasthan. The public health system should be strengthened by increasing the expenditure on health to 2.5% of Karnataka's GDP from the existing 0.8% as recommended by the Karnataka health vision committee," he asserted.

While Ms. Nisha Gulur demanded that the government should provide nutritional support to HIV and Tuberculosis patients, members - Karibasappa and Shanthamma - said the government should end privatisation of health care through Public-Private-Partnership. "The need for documentation like Aadhaar Card, BPL Card, etc. for availing health service should be done away with," they said.

Kannada actor Vijay Raghavendra's wife dead

Spandana

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Spandana, wife of Kannada actor Vijay Raghavendra, passed away on Monday due to cardiac arrest. She was on vacation with family in Bangkok. She was 44. Spandana's mortal remains will be brought back to Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Spandana and Vijay Raghavendra tied the knot on August 26, 2007, and the couple has a son named Shourya.

Her death has come 19 days before the couple's 16th wedding anniversary. According to reports, low BP is said to have caused the cardiac arrest. Spandana, daughter of retired ACP B.K. Shivaram, is a BBA graduate. Spandana had essayed a cameo in V. Ravichandran's 2016 film *Apoorva*.

'Late presentation a major factor for higher mortality in women with coronary artery disease'

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

A study by doctors from the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research has found late presentation to hospitals by women with severe coronary artery disease to be a major factor for higher mortality.

The research titled - "Clinical and Angiographic Profile of Women with Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) from a Large Tertiary Cardiac Care Centre in South India - An Observational Study" has been published in the Indian Journal of Cardiovascular Disease in Women in December 2022.

The study led by Veena Nanjappa and a team of doctors from the Department of Cardiology at Jayadeva's Mysuru centre and C.N. Manjunath, institute director, has found hypertension followed by diabetes to be the most common comorbidity seen in the group of 529 women who were studied. ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) was the most common presentation.

Risk factors

"The present study is the largest single-center data of ACS in women from the country. Cardiovascular disease is presently the most common cause of mortality in women. Major heart attack studies that guide daily clinical practice have disproportionately enrolled men. Women with heart attack have more risk factors than men and traditional risk factors like diabetes and hypertension affect the cardiovascular system differently in women, due to which the prognosis is also very poor in women," Dr. Nanjappa told *The Hindu*.

The mean age of presentation in this study is 43 years in premenopausal age and 63 years in the postmenopausal age group.

"Most women, in our study, were in the postmenopausal group (84.25%). About 40% of the premenopausal and 56% of the postmenopausal group had diabetes, and 45% of the premenopausal and 61% in the postmenopausal group had hypertension. Anaemia was seen in 55% of cases and dyslipidemia with elevated LDL cholesterol was seen in 66% of cases," she said.

"Higher deaths were seen in patients presenting late to the hospital and in worse stages. While 178 patients (33.65%) with ACS reached a hospital in less than 24 hours after symptom onset, 119 (22.49%) patients presented within 24-48 hours. As many as 95 patients (17.96%) presented in 48-72 hours and 25.9% patients presented late after 72 hours," Dr. Nanjappa said.

Dr. Manjunath said there is only a marginal difference in the distribution of patients from urban and rural areas which is alarming. This highlights the fact that coronary disease is no longer a disease limited to urban populations, he said.

"This fact will have a cascading effect on health economic policies. There is a need for addressing and preventing these risk factors at a primary healthcare level, and a robust system of linking the primary care to tertiary centers for better health- care," he said.

Premenopausal

Dr. Manjunath, who stated that over 35% of those presenting with heart attacks are below 45 years, asserted that the most worrying factor is that it is affecting more women in the reproductive age group now, unlike in the past when women got it mostly after menopause.

Another study by Dr. Nanjappa and her team corroborates this.

"Hormonal milieu was not found to be different in the 50 premenopausal women with heart attack versus those who did not have an attack. This was based on the premise that estrogen is a protective hormone. The women were followed up for a duration of six months, " said Dr. Nanjappa.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, AUG. 08		
RISE	06:06	SET 18:44
RISE	00:00	SET 12:12
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 09		
RISE	06:07	SET 18:44
RISE	00:02	SET 13:07
THURSDAY, AUG. 10		
RISE	06:07	SET 18:43
RISE	00:47	SET 14:02

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	32	22
Bengaluru	30	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be dry. Day will be slight warm and humid with gusty winds. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at some places.

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THE HINDU
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New technique to search for closely merging supermassive black holes developed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An international team of astronomers and computer scientists from India and France have developed a new technique to search for closely merging supermassive black holes.

The team has devised a numerical technique to automatically search for double nuclei galaxies which could help them predict what could happen when neighbouring galaxies like the Milky Way and the Andromeda collide.

According to the Department of Science and Technology who have supported this study, scientists need to study collisions between galaxies to predict uncertainties like whether the solar system would survive or be ripped apart from the violent mixing of stars and gas between the galaxies when they collide.

For this, they need to hunt for closely merging galaxies.

However, only a handful of such galaxies are known, as they are very rare. During the merging process, the nuclei of the individual galaxies come closer resulting in the formation of double nuclei galaxies.

Team of scientists

In order to hunt for more merging galaxies in the open sky, an international team of Astronomers and Computer Scientists from APPCAIR, BITS Pilani, Goa campus, Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Allahabad University, and the Paris Observatory, France, have developed a new algorithm which has led to the discovery of thousands of double-nuclei galaxies.

"Out of these, 159 were confirmed to have pairs of accreting supermassive black holes or active galactic nuclei (AGN) as they are usually called," the department stated.

Special Technique

For this study, the team crafted a specialised image processing technique called GOTHIC that can automatically detect galaxies that visually resemble the galaxy MRK 739, which is one of the earliest detected dual AGN. GOTHIC used sophisticated image processing techniques and data from one of the largest optical surveys, the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) to detect such nuclei pairs.

"Earlier, there were approximately only 50 known double nuclei galaxies with good images. Since this is too small a sample size for any AI model to train properly, we had to resort to old-school image processing" said Snehanshu Saha, ML expert at APPCAIR, BITS Pilani.

Next, they applied GOTHIC to a random sample of 1 million galaxy images to filter out the rare double-nuclei galaxies.

"The process was tedious and it took many months to complete since terabytes of image data had to be downloaded. But the final result was totally worth it!" said Anwesh Bhattacharya, lead author and creator of GOTHIC.

Pani puri vendor kills wife, surrenders to police

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 37-year-old *pani puri* vendor allegedly strangled his wife over a domestic row and surrendered to the police with the help of the security guard of his landlord in Kundalahalli on Sunday.The accused Taranath married Saritha six years ago and the couple was living in a rented house.

Taranath told the police that he had borrowed huge sum of loan and failed to repay. The couple used to have frequent fights and on Saturday, after a fight, Taranath in a fit of rage strangled her and left the house after locking it from outside.

The police said that the accused is giving different reasons for the murder which is not corroborated with his claims.

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

WHEN STUDENTS DO THEIR SCHOOL PROUD

In the Under-15 category, both the boys' and girls' teams of Mahila Seva Samaja State Board, bagged the first place in the Inter-school Volleyball Competition conducted by the Foundation for Infinite Learning, Kachmaranahalli, Gunjur. This was indeed a great moment of pride for the school.

STUDENTS WIN MEDALS IN YOGA

In the Vidya Bharti Bangalore City District Level Yogasana Competition, students of Rashtrothana Vidya Kendra, Banashankari, won 32 medals. They bagged 21 gold, one silver and 10 bronze medals. Team RVK-BSK also participated in three games in groups and two individual games, and brought glory to the Yoga department and the school. Yogasana athletes who won gold medals in the U-14 and U-17 categories have been selected for the State Level Yogasana Competition to be held in Belagavi, Karnataka. School students Pranav Nadig, Sakshi C., Kaustub S Rao, Niranjan J., Srihari D., Dhanush A., and Nachiketa won gold medals and were selected for the State level yoga competition. Yoga team trainers Praveen and Premalata led the team.

EDUTAINMENT AT ITS BEST FOR YOUNG READERS

Young World Club is a fun-filled online edutainment portal from The Hindu, packed with rich multimedia content to make learning exciting. Updated every week, it offers children new ways to learn through its interactive sections on Think, Read, Do, Travel, Play, and Change. The content is presented in various interactive formats such as quizzes, crosswords, sliders, puzzles, dialog cards, flash cards, presentations, videos, games, timelines, and so on. Curated for children of age groups 8-11 (Juniors), 12-15 (Seniors), parents and teachers, this web platform offers children new ways to understand diverse topics.

YOUNG WORLD CLUB.com from THE HINDU GROUP

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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002

No.: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/1040/2023-24 **Date: 31.07.2023**

FORM-III
PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961** the following "Area" mentioned in the schedule below is required by The Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening of Bannerghatta Main Road from Jedimara Junction at Outer Ring Road to Koli Form Junction** for implementing the proposals of the approved Matster Plan-2015.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose land are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o The Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru South** Name of the Village: **Kalena Agrahara Village**

Sl. No.	Sy. No. / Khata No.	Type of land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m		Boundaries of the land / plot				Building Details			Present activity on land / Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, individual house etc.,)	Market (guide lines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot / land for which DRC is to be issued.
		Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved layout / developed land Building site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. Of floors	Floor Area Ratio			
198	Sy.No.: 2/5 BBMP Khatha Sl. No.: 1751	Vacant Land		Converted A Khatha Land			362.07 Sqm		Sy. No.: 7/2	Sy. No.: 2/3	Bannerughatta Main Road	Remaining portion of Sy. No. 2/5	None	None	None	Vacant	72,000/- per Sqm	Karnataka Jesuit Educational Society, Loyala Mandir, No. 96, Lavellae Road, 3rd Crass, Bengaluru-560001

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below.

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / Branch Office	Special Land Acquisition Officer, 1st Floor, Room No.: 107, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru-560002

Sd/-,
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

CID to probe Udupi 'voyeurism' case

Three second-year paramedical diploma students were accused of capturing a video of their classmate in the college washroom on July 18

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A file photo of the Netra Jyothi Institute of Allied Health Sciences where the alleged incident took place.

The State government has handed over the investigation into the alleged voyeurism incident at a paramedical college in Udupi to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID). Director-General and Inspector-General of Police Alok Mohan issued an order to this effect on Monday.

"As this alleged recording of video in the washroom of the private college is a sensitive one, it has been handed over to the CID for further investigation," Chief Minister Siddaramaiah posted on X (formerly known as Twitter).

'Accused favoured'

Udupi MLA Yashpal Suvarna told reporters in Udupi that the case has been handed over to the CID in a hurry to favour the accused. The latest decision has been taken a few days after recording the voluntary statements of the victim and three accused students before the magistrate, he said.

He said that the Udupi police have found alleged links of a parent of the accused girl with the banned Popular Front of India and it has also gathered important evidence related to the case.

"When the Udupi police were in the final stages of investigation, the case has been transferred to the CID," he said.

Three second-year paramedical diploma students of Netra Jyothi Institute of Allied Health Sciences were accused of capturing a video of one of their classmate in the college washroom on July 18.

Following a press meet by the college in Udupi on July 25 wherein the college mentioned the action taken by the management, the Udupi's Malpe police registered a *suo motu* case against three students and also the college management.

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Kundapur division, K.U. Belliyappa was made the investigation officer.

Protests were held by the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, and the Vishwa Hindu Parisad condemning the delayed action of the Udupi police in registering the case and also against Home Minister G. Parameshwara's reported statement calling the incident as a child play.

Meanwhile, member of the National Commission for Women and actor Khushboo Sundar visited the college and dismissed as rumours the reports about placement of hidden camera in the washroom and about circulation of the washroom video on social media.

During his visit to Udupi and Mangaluru on August 1, Mr. Siddaramaiah said he will allow the Dy. SP to freely investigate the case and it was too premature to think of changing the investigation agency.

What police have done

Apart from arranging for recording of the voluntary statement of the victim before the Judicial Magistrate under Section 164 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Udupi police have inquired more than 30 witnesses relating to the alleged incident.

According to official sources, the investigation officer has sent the mobile phones of the three accused students for analysis by the For

ensic Science Laboratory. The apology letters by the accused to the college principal have been sent for analysis by handwriting expert.

Governor's office writes to CS to examine charges against Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/MYSURU

Amid allegations of corruption against Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy by department officials and a letter from Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's secretariat to the Chief Secretary to look into the matter, the Minister on Monday termed the letter as "fake".

A communication from the Governor's secretariat to the Chief Secretary said that assistant directors in Mandya, Malavalli, K.R. Pet, Pandavapura, Srirangapatna, and Maddur taluk had in a letter accused the Minister of seeking ₹6 lakh to ₹8 lakh through the Joint Director of Agriculture of Mandya.

Probe

Dismissing the letter submitted by Agriculture Department officials as "fake," Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said he had urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to order a probe by the Chief Secretary into the matter to identify the persons behind the "fake letter submitted to the Governor in the names of the Agriculture Department officials". The Minister said he had discussed the matter with the Joint Director of Agriculture in Mandya and the latter had informed him that no official from the department had written such a letter.

Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said he had asked the Superintendent of Police, Mandya, to hold a preliminary inquiry into the matter. "Prima facie it appears to be fake. But, we have to find out who has written the letter," he said.

The Agriculture Minister said it was a "conspiracy" to tarnish his reputation.

HC directs authorities to integrate police IT system with insurance, Transport Dept. portals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Integrate the Information Technology (IT) system of the State Police Department with the road accident database report on the *Parivahan* website of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and all the insurance companies for real-time sharing of investigation details of motor vehicle accident cases, the High Court of Karnataka directed the State authorities.

The court also directed integration of the police IT system with the Unique Disability ID website set up by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, to track the disability caused to a victim of accident and the report issued by the medical board constituted under the Rights of Persons with Disability Act.

Integration should also be done with the Forensic Laboratory Management System of the State with the Police IT system, the court said.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued the direction while pointing out that integration of online system of these authorities are essential for real-time sharing of information and interaction between various authorities on investigation of motor vehicle accident cases in asynchronous manner based on the investigation procedure laid down under Section 150A of the Central Motor Vehicles (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2022.

The court directed the Director-General and Inspector-General Police, the Secretary, Department of Health, State Transport Commissioner and the Secretary, e-Governance Department to submit a project report within four weeks for integrating the systems.

The directions were issued while pointing out the delay caused in filing claim petitions by the victims in a road accident case as the police did not transmit the Detailed Investigation Report (DAR) to the claims tribunal and other authorities despite clear mandate in the Rules 2022 for transmitting the DAR to the tribunal and other stakeholders.

Receiving of the documents by all the stakeholders electronically would expedite the process of commencement of claim from the victims of accidents as the tribunal can register the DAR as a claim petition, secure evidence electronically and conduct proceedings expeditiously, the court observed.

Pointing out that filing of DAR before the tribunal by the police, as per the 2022 Rules, would automatically result in initiation of claim proceedings in favour of the victims provided the police had furnished the details of claimants, without waiting for filing of a petition by the claimants, the court said linking of IT systems of the authorities would expedite the process on claim petition.

CM, DKS hold meeting with Congress legislators; promise release of funds in a phased manner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar chairing a meeting with Congress legislators in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In a move to douse discontent among the Congress MLAs and ensure unity in the party ahead of the crucial Lok Sabha elections next year, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Monday held marathon meetings with MLAs and district in-charge Ministers of six districts and assured them of releasing funds for development works in a phased manner in the coming days.

MLAs of several constituencies of six districts - Tumakuru, Yadgir, Chitradurga, Bagalkot, Ballari, and Dharwad - sought funds for completion of ongoing projects and taking up new works promised to the electorate during the Assembly elections.

A few MLAs who attended the meeting told *The Hindu* that the Chief Minister was very receptive to the demand for grants sought by legislators for executing development works in their constituencies. But at the same time, he expressed financial constraints faced by the government in releasing funds for development work in constituencies of MLAs.

The MLAs sought funds for completion of incomplete projects launched during the previous BJP government.

Kunigal MLA H.D. Ranganth said that "Mr. Siddaramaiah has mentioned financial constraints faced by the government following implementation of five guarantees and assured release of funds in a phased manner". "We brought issues at the constituency level to the Chief Minister's attention. Mr. Shivakumar, who is also KPCC president, has already given a message to the MLAs", he said.

Another MLA said the issue related to transfer of officials was not discussed and talks were largely confined to delay in the release of grants for undertaking rural and urban development projects in constituencies.

Mr. Siddaramaiah told district in-charge Ministers to not interfere in constituencies of MLAs and work in tandem with legislators, sources said.

As the government is estimated to spend close to ₹50,000 crore in the current fiscal year in implementing five guarantees, the Chief Minister, who is also holding the finance portfolio, referred to difficulties in releasing funds for big-ticket projects, a MLA from Chitradurga district said.

JD(S) leaders to tour State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The JD(S) leaders will take up a State tour after August 15 to strengthen the party organisation ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.

A decision to this effect was taken at a meeting of the party leaders that was attended by former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy in Bengaluru on Monday.

Deve Gowda skips Rajya Sabha session owing to ill health

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda has stated that he could not attend the Rajya Sabha session on Monday owing to ill health.

In a media release, the former Prime Minister said though an important JD (S) meeting too had been scheduled in Bengaluru on Monday, he could not sit in that meeting for more than 10 minutes owing to severe lower back pain. He said he would attend the session on Wednesday if the pain reduces. He watched the proceedings of the House on TV at his residence.

M.P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
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Ref. : MD/MK/04/NIT/1648 Date : 07.08.2023

TENDER NOTICE

MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following online bids from Agencies for below mentioned as per Tender Specification :-

Tender Specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs. Crore)	Tender Fee Including GST (in Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of Opening of Tender
MD/MK/ 04/962	Request for Proposal for Appointment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Service Provider for Smart Prepaid Metering on DBFOOT basis	1213.52	23600	NA	23.08.23

Other details and full Tender documents would be available on Company website **https://portal.mpcz.in** & Govt. Website **https://mptenders.gov.in** shortly.
M.P. Madhyam/111271/2023 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH RAICHUR
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION RAICHUR
NO./EE/RDWS&S/RCR/TS/JJM/2023-24/e-Tender/ 640 DATED : 07-08-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer RDWS & S Division Raichur invites tenders from eligible tenderers Registered under e-procurement civil contractors in Panchayath Engineering Department, for Providing water supply scheme to below works, as per KW-3 & 4 Standard Bid Document Under JJM 2022-23 GOI&GOK Fund (90%) &Community Contribution (10%). The tenderers may submit tenders for the works given in the table in GOK e- Procurement platform www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in only as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed.

1) Notification Date : 07-08-2023 2)Download of tender schedule documents online: 08-08-2023 3) Pre Bid Meeting at Office of the Executive Engineer, RDWS&S, Division, Raichur, 2nd Floor, Zilla Panchyath, Raichur :16-08-2023 at 11:00 AM 4) Last date for receiving of filled tender documents: 21-08-2023 at 4:30 PM 4) Opening of Technical bid: 23-08-2023 at 11:00 AM 6) Opening of Financial bid: 24-08-2023 at 11:00 AM

Indent Nos.:- Sindhanur: 2389, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2409, 2410, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2443, 2444, 2458, 2459, 2461, 2463

More details can be had from the Office of the under signed and also through our website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ by clicking the List of Tenders which will be link all Dept. works list.

DIP/Raichur/84/K.S.M.A & C/2023-24 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDWS&S. Divn, Raichur**

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
BUILDINGS AND ROADS DIVISION
P.W.D., KARAIKAL

e-TENDER NOTICE No.13/PW/B&R/KKL/2023-24, dated 04-08-2023

On behalf of President of India, e-tenders are invited from the eligible contractors / firms by the Executive Engineer, Buildings and Roads Division, P.W.D., Karaikal for 2 Road Works. Closing time for submission of E-tender is 4.00 P.M. on 17-08-2023. Other details / information can be seen in the website: **https://pudutenders.gov.in**

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - B&R
P.W.D., KARAIKAL
No. 148/DIP/KKL/ADVT/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, MR. GUNABHOOSHANAM S/o. Late. M. Anniyappa is the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner and we are scrutinizing the documents pertaining to the same. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing **Site No. 1329 (Block-A) in the layout known as AIRCRAFT EMPLOYEES CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, BBMP Khata No. 1251/1329,** measuring **East to West 90+110/2 feet and North to South 75+70/2 feet, in all measuring 7250 Sq.ft,** situated at **Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** the layout plan approved by the Bangalore development Authority as per the order No. BDA/TPM/DD/1263/1992-93, dated 12.11.1992 and Modified Plan bearing No. BDA/TPM/PL-31/1259/2008-09, dated 11.08.2008 and bounded on: **East by:** Road; **West by:** Site No. 1330; **North by:** Road; **South by:** Site No. 1346;

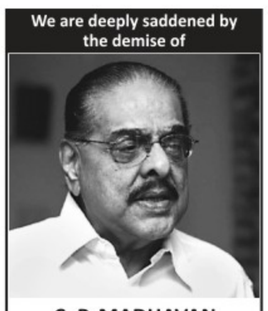
Dated this 06th day of August 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2, H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

We are deeply saddened by the demise of



C. P. MADHAVAN
1st May 1939 - 7th August 2023
(Son of late V. S. MENON)

We will deeply miss him and his lively presence. He brought boundless joy and love to all who knew him!

Cremation held on 8th August 2023 in Bangalore.

Deeply mourned by:
Kunjulakshmi (wife), Rohini & Ravi (children), Rashmi & Krishnan (daughter-in-law & son-in-law), Nivedita & Agastya (grandchildren), family and friends.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

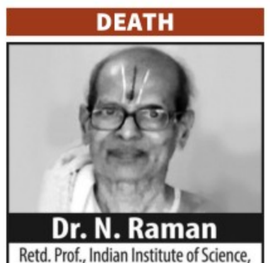
BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Dr. M.C. RAVINDRA NATH
(08-08-1950 : 09-08-2012)
A father, a friend, a mentor, a leader, an educationist, Founder of Oxford Institutions, Nagarabhavi & Ullal, Bengaluru. Who inspired us in embracing core values in building and continuing his legacy.

Family: Mrs. Usha Ravindra Nath, Dr. B.R. Supreeth, Mrs. Sharada Supreeth, Dr. B.R.Prakrutha Aditya, Sri. Aditya Rao, B.S. Praanjala, B.S. Ravisimha, Chi. Avyukth Students & Staff members.

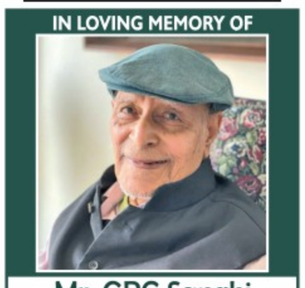
OXFORD INSTITUTIONS

DEATH



Dr. N. Raman
Retd. Prof., Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.
Passed away at the age of 82 yrs, on 6-8-23 in Bengaluru.
Mourned by:
Mrs. Neeraja Raman (Wife), Daughter, Son-in-law, Grandson, Other Relatives and Friends.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Mr. GRC Sanghi
Ex-Binny's, Bangalore, Madras.
Honorary Member, Bangalore Golf Club, Golfing since 1956.
Amazing father, Loving husband & Wonderful human being.
Passed away on 5th August 2023
Deeply Mourned by Sanghi Family
Ph: 98446 03306

‘I think the cheetah project is a worthwhile experiment but not easy’

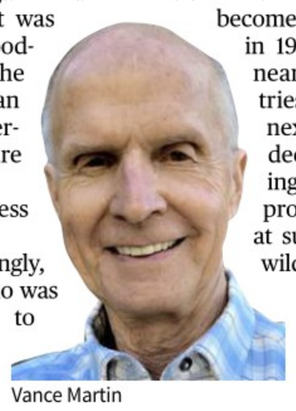
There have been a lot of problems between the conservation movement and indigenous people. Conservation can and should be done with human rights in mind, says Vance Martin

INTERVIEW

Vance Martin

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Vance Martin’s first childhood memory was the sight of a woodpecker on a tree in front of his house when he was a year and a half old. “The next year, I looked out there and there was the woodpecker again. And I wondered if it was the same woodpecker,” says the 74-year-old, an expert in international nature conservation and wilderness protection.


Vance Martin

Not surprisingly, Mr. Martin, who was in the city to speak at the Nature inFocus Festival, an annual festival to celebrate nature, conservation, and wildlife, always knew that he wanted to work with nature. “I turned down a full scholarship in sports to go to forestry school,” he says, adding, however, that he quit in a year and a half “because in the 60s if you were a forester, you were a tree farmer. That didn’t work for me,” says Mr. Martin. “I wanted something more holistic, but it didn’t exist back then.”

Instead, he studied English Victorian and Romantic Poetry. “I am so qualified to be in this field,” he says, with a guffaw, admitting that he was the poster child of the 60s back then with his long hair, regular use of marijuana, and strong belief in love and hope. “I draw on these (love and hope) every day of my life, even today,” says Mr. Martin, who left the U.S. at 21, a week after he got his degree because he didn’t like what was happening in the country back then. “This was Nixon, the Vietnam War,” he remembers. “I went away for six weeks and stayed away for 15 years,” he recalls.

Around this time, he met South African conservationist Ian Player, who became his mentor and worked closely with Player and his Zulu friend, Magqubu Ntombela, to establish the WILD Foundation. He went on to become its president in 1984, living in nearly 100 countries over the next three-odd decades, working on multiple projects aimed at sustaining the wild.

“Our flagship project was the World Wilderness Congress, a very unusual gathering that started in 1977,” says the septuagenarian, pointing out that these conferences have played a key role in strengthening wilderness policy globally. “The current one is being planned, but not by me since I have handed WILD over to another team,” says Mr. Martin, now the president of the Wilderness Foundation Global.

Talking about it, he says, “It isn’t an organisation—it is a group of friends working together to do the things we want to do, the things that need doing that don’t need organisational approval,” says Mr. Martin, adding he is entering a new phase of conservation work. “I am going to continue doing this, but in a different way. I have lots of petrol left in the tank,” he says. “It is entirely possible to heal the world if you focus on healing ourselves and our lack of relationship with nature.”

It was an experiment that needed to happen because it taught us about our relationship with the earth, says Vance Martin about India’s cheetah project. GETTY IMAGES

What are you most proud of having accomplished at WILD?
Well, there are some institutional things. There is the Global Environment Facility—GEF—which is an independent part of the World Bank. It is now the world’s largest funder of biodiversity projects and it started at the 4th World Wilderness Congress.

We also pioneered the very first inventory of wilderness around the world. This was in 1987—the pre-digital era. (It was) done on large-scale maps with rulers. And now that has been repeated several times and is an ongoing project for many groups, with remote sensing and everything. But it started back in the dark ages.

One of the other things that I am most proud of is that we gave a platform to traditional and indigenous people; one of our co-founders is Zulu. Indigenous people and the land they steward contain 80% of the remaining biodiversity on Earth. There have been a lot of problems between the conservation movement and indigenous people, but that doesn’t need to be the case. Conservation can and should be done with human rights, following the laws of UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous People) . Though conservationists and human rights are still fighting it out, progress has been made.

The other thing that we do that is a little more obscure—it is making culture an equal partner to science and economics and policy So, what is culture? It is what informs us who we are and how we want to live. That can be through art, language, the humanities, or music; anything that helps us get out of our heads a little. In our mind, it (conservation) is a four-legged stool: science, economics, policy, and culture. If you do not have those four legs, the stool is going to be a little wobbly and will fall over.

What do you think is the best way to handle human-animal conflict, ensuring that you conserve wildlife without negatively impacting local communities, who often live and eke out a living in protected areas?
Sometimes people need to move, and they must be incentivised to move. But they cannot just be pushed onto trucks. How you move them is the answer. And sometimes, we have had situations where people do not want to move. So, we let them stay there and make an agreement on a generational lease and they get compensated.

With the Peace Park Foundation in Africa, which I am involved in, we have just finished moving 2,000 families out of one park.

It took 2.5 years to do the negotiations, and they left of their own will. They were compensated and got new land. It took a while because people take a while. You just must do it the right way.

As someone, who has been deeply involved in the Cheetah Conservation Fund, which has played a more significant role in the study and sustenance of the species in the wild, what are your thoughts about India’s cheetah reintroduction project?
I am not going to condemn it. I think it is a very worthwhile experiment that is not easy. There are all sorts of issues with it, including politics. But you know, the reintroduction of apex predators is a very uneven, unsettled science.

If you don’t do it, you won’t learn more. Not everything succeeds. I think this has a chance of succeeding. I won’t put the odds on it—maybe 50/50—but it is a crucial experiment.

When they put wolves back into Yellowstone (in 1995. They had gotten extinct a hundred years ago) some people hated it. For instance, the hunting community hated it because it drastically reduced the number of elk, but suddenly the ecological processes began to happen again. The streams acted differently.

What is called riparian vegetation, the streamside bushes, came back. This brought back more small birds, etc. Ecosystem health improved tremendously, and the wolves exploded in population, more than they thought. They were doing so well that there were packs with two breeding females, something that has never been observed before.

It is not about whether it is good or bad. It was an experiment that needed to happen because it taught us about our relationship with the earth and how to have a better relationship with it. What we learn from it will benefit us and nature.

Bugworks and GARDP collaborate to accelerate development of novel antibiotic to treat serious infections

Bugworks is currently developing a compound that aims to address problems arising from serious hospital and community infections

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Biopharmaceutical company Research, which has research and development facilities in Bengaluru, has entered into a partnership with the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) based out of Switzerland. The collaboration aims to accelerate the development of an antibiotic compound for treating serious infections caused by multidrug-resistant bacteria.

A clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, Bugworks develops multi-target therapeutic assets in the anti-infectives and oncology areas. It is currently developing the compound BWC0977 which aims to address problems arising from serious hospital and community infections, and bacterial biothreats.

The compound will go through Phase-1 clinical trials next year. As part of the collaboration, GARDP would provide resources and funding for up to $20 million once the trials are a success.

BWC0977 has the potential to treat infections that are becoming difficult to treat owing to the increase of antimicrobial resistance in pathogens. GETTY IMAGES

According to the company, BWC0977 has the potential to treat infections that are becoming difficult to treat due to the increase of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in pathogens. These pathogens can cause hospital-associated infections such as pneumonia, bloodstream infections, meningitis and urinary tract infections.

“Since 2019, we have been following with interest the development of BWC0977 as a potential treatment for drug-resistant infections caused by the most harmful and deadly bacteria on the WHO priority pathogens list,” said Dr. Manica Balasegaram, GARDP’s Executive Director.

“We are delighted to be able to accelerate the development of this promising antibiotic compound, by supporting clinical and pharmaceutical development activities, with the hope of getting it to patients where it is most needed,” he added.

GARDP would also work with Bugworks to advance BWC0977 through Phase II and Phase III studies, and support its pharmaceutical development and commercialization. This is hoped to help the company launch it in the European Union, US, Japan and China.

“We are thrilled to strengthen our ongoing partnership with GARDP to accelerate the clinical development of BWC0977 and deliver a truly differentiated broad-spectrum drug that can tackle the toughest drug-resistant superbugs,” said Dr. Anand Anandkumar, co-founder and CEO of Bugworks.

In 2020, GARDP and Bugworks signed a Memorandum of Understanding to explore antibiotic development to tackle serious bacterial infections in high-burden countries.

In 2022, GARDP provided support for a cardiac safety study embedded in the ongoing first-in-human study that will provide an early assessment of potential cardiovascular risk of BWC0977.

“By leveraging GARDP’s unique global AMR network and clinical development expertise, we aim to achieve our goal of ‘Go to Globe’, ensuring equitable access to this drug to patients across the planet. The strong support enabled by CARB-X has primed Bugworks’ collaboration with GARDP,” Dr. Anandkumar added.

CARB-X, a global nonprofit promoting antimicrobial research, has been supporting Bugworks since 2017 through optimisation and preclinical development and into first-in-human clinical studies of the compound.

The phase I trial of BWC0977 is being conducted in Australia, with funding and technical support from CARB-X.

“Bugworks was the second company to apply for funding from CARB-X, back in 2016, and we have accelerated BWC0977 all the way from lead optimization, through preclinical development and into first-in-human clinical studies,” said Kevin Outterson, Executive Director of CARB-X and Austin B. Fletcher Professor at Boston University School of Law.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 8, 1973

Dutt Report Assails Delay in Commissioning MISL Units

Bangalore, Aug. 7: Mr. R. C. Dutt, former Secretary of the Union Steel Ministry, in his report on the working of the Mysore Iron and Steel, Ltd., was of the view that the delay of six months, up to the stage of erection of machinery, in the case of alloy steel conversion project as a whole could not be regarded as ‘unduly blameworthy’.

Commenting on the course of the key project and the delays encountered, Mr. Dutt has pointed out that it was a project which involved supplies from various sources, foreign and indigenous, and required co-ordination of a number of other factors like supply equipment, civil engineering, and structural works.

Mr. Dutt has criticised the delay in the commissioning of the plants especially the combined bar and rod mill.

Technical Snag Hampers Work on Kalinadhi Project

Bangalore, Aug. 7: Work on the giant Kalinadhi hydel project in Karwar District of Mysore has run into certain technical snags. Excavation of the 26-foot, 6-mile long reservoir to the surge tanks of the Nagjari powerhouse, has been delayed because one of the adits had encountered soft soil which frequently caved in.

This problem has been solved, according to Mr. P.R. Nayak, Managing Director of the Mysore Power Corporation, which is handling the project. The solution decided upon is to use a steep, 45 degree inclined, approach shaft to the line of main tunnel line.

CITYBEATS

Life on the pitch

AUGUST 8, 6.30PM
The book, *Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket* by Amrit Mathur, will be launched in the city. Anil Kumble will be in conversation with sports journalist Sharada Ugra. It will be an evening of "nostalgia and conversations".
At Bangalore International Centre, Domlur.

Art on your plate

TUESDAYS TO SUNDAYS
Smoor launches Cumulus at The Museum of Art & Photography (MAP). It is an al-fresco experience provided with Smoor, that promises to be a journey of flavours and artistic inspirations.
Meal for two is priced at ₹2500.
At Museum of Art & Photography, Kasturba Road.
Call 9609996687 for details and reservations.

Women at work

AUGUST 10, 6.30PM
Watch the Peabody Award winning film *Writing With Fire*, directed by Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh. Organised by Vikalp Bengaluru in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre, it is an exploration of truth, justice and power, through the lens of an all-women's newsroom. At BIC. *Log on to https://vikalpbengaluru.weebly.com*

Old-time country, new-age twist

Here is how Bengaluru-based band Alva Kuuto, is giving Tulu a musical chance with their songs and stories

Ruth Dhanaraj

Country chords take me home (clockwise from top) Praveen, Ashuman, Siddharth and Abhilash. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sometimes the English language just is not enough when describing emotions that go with memories. The new green of rain-washed earth, the wait for your favourite dish as it simmers on the stove...the list could be as endless as the nostalgia it evokes. This is what had Praveen Alva stumped whenever he found himself trying to compose in Hindi or English, while he could express himself effortlessly in Tulu, his mother tongue.

The singer-songwriter and frontman of the Alva Kuuto band, Praveen is a practising architect who found music late in life. "Even as a schoolboy, I loved going onstage, but that was for theatre and other performances, never music," says Praveen. "Growing up in Belgaum, my cultural exposure was different. I was thoroughly fascinated by *bhut kola*, *yakshagana* and the like, purely for their performative nature."

Recognising his bent of mind, a professor suggested he take up architecture to harness his potential. "I took to it immediately; I had not realised how challenging and creatively driven this field was."

With architecture came the need to read. "Till then, it was only my textbooks. Now, I had to be aware of world views on architecture. And with the books came music and a chance to read up on musicians."

Praveen says until then, his only exposure to music was from television or radio which would play old Kannada film songs and regional music. "Then, in college, I heard Metallica, Linkin Park and Pink Floyd for the first time and I was floored by the intense melodies and deep lyrical meanings," says Praveen, a sense of wonder still apparent in his voice. "You could get lost in those lyrics."

He recalls how a senior told him not to skip parts of those songs but to listen to them in their entirety as they conveyed various concepts; the fact that a few Pink Floyd members were architecture students cemented his quest.

Praveen was already working as an architect when his wife, Seema Pai, gifted him a guitar. "Learning music was never an option when I was growing up; now I had a chance to make up for lost time."

While taking guitar lessons, Praveen found he had a natural pitch as a singer – he would tote his guitar to work to practise during breaks. "At that time, a lot of friends in my circle were getting married and we'd learn covers to play for those occasions."

"I began songwriting casually in English, but eventually realised they were

mostly love songs or centered the pathos of life. In 2016, I found the lyrical side of songwriting came easier to me in Tulu. My first song was 'Lullaby' and I wrote it remembering what my grandmother used to sing to me when I was younger."

> The focus of Alva Kuuto is to drape old language in the sounds of today without getting stuck in genres.
>
> **PRAVEEN ALVA**
> frontman of Alva Kuuto

The ease with which the words flowed encouraged Praveen to keep at it. "Soon, I started to explore a different sort of story telling focused on childhood memories, the rural touch and women-centric topics. It was an emotional indulgence in my mother tongue and memories."

The fact that Tulu has very little written literature despite being 2,500 years old, only spurred Praveen into engaging in more conversations in his mother tongue, in a bid to capture more of its sparse vocabulary.

In 2019, armed with his original songs, Praveen began performing at open mics every week in Bengaluru, to gauge the reactions of a non-Tulu speaking public. After pointers from musician Raghu Dixit, he formed Alva Kuuto (Alva's Collective) in 2022, with artistes he had met during his musical journey.

Ironically, none of his bandmates – bassist Abhilash Shet, drummer Anshuman Uphadyay and electric guitarist Siddharth Pradeep, speak Tulu. That has not stopped them from enjoying what they do.

Hailing from Honnavar near Gokarna, Abhilash Sheth knew a smattering of Tulu which helped him as the backing vocalist of the band. "I also get what Praveen is trying to convey through his songs as I could relate to life on the western coast of Karnataka," says Abhilash.

"I'm a trained Hindustani vocalist and wanted to take a step back from being the frontman (for another band before he joined Alva Kuuto) and focus on the bass guitar which I love. Praveen has an immense passion for his music, which is one of the biggest incentives to be in the band. Plus, his songs are really groovy and as a bassist, those are the kind of songs I look forward to performing," he adds.

The band which bonded over food, collectively participates in working on their music. "The first level of structuring is done by Praveen in terms of lyrics and music; we then flesh it out, adding layers and fine tuning it," says Abhilash.

"Siddharth comes from a modern pop background, Anshuman digs pop and rock and I am a metalhead with classical background. Together with Praveen who works in a folk and rock milieu, our influences and skill sets are different, but we make it work. It isn't easy to come out of your comfort zone, but as a team, we are open to feedback from each other. That hunger to keep growing is what excites us to work on our sound and ourselves."

Abhilash is still astonished at the rousing welcome the Tulu-singing band gets from audiences in the city. "Ironically, the Bangalore crowd is very receptive compared to Mangalore, where you have to work to warm them up despite performing in their native tongue. Here, everyone in the room is open to songs being performed in a language they might not know."

"The focus of Alva Kuuto is to drape old language in the sounds of today without getting stuck in genres," says Praveen, adding that they only perform original music now, "to better understand our culture."

For further updates on upcoming gigs, follow Alva Kuuto's intagram handle alva.kuuto

In celebration of a polymath royal

Malini White

At a glittering event on July 18, the Maharaja Shri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Foundation celebrated his 104th birth anniversary, with Governor of Andhra Pradesh, S. Abdul Nazeer, as the chief guest. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar's daughters, Kamakshi Devi and Indrakshi Devi, other family members, and a number of invitees paid homage to his legacy.

The occasion devised by Maya Chandra, aptly called 'The King Speaks', released podcasts of the Maharaja's speeches, beginning with his historic coronation speech in 1940.

The series is tribute to a true Renaissance polymath, whose intellectual pursuits did much to preserve and promote Indian culture, while his eclectic knowledge and practice of music included both Carnatic and Western Classical. His study of Sanskrit scriptures manifested itself in his strong sense of duty, truly in the interests of his subjects, rather than for personal gain and glory.

He was the personification of Krishna's teachings in his lack of ego and willingness to accept change, readily ceding his glorious Mysore kingdom to the Republic of India.

Princely touch A portrait of Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, (above) Syed Fateen at the piano. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Maharaja was an excellent pianist but, in fact, he wanted to become a conductor, under the tutelage of Rachmaninoff, but fate required him to ascend the Mysore throne, so he picked up the sceptre instead of the baton. He funded the Philharmonia Orchestra, and was responsible for vinyl recordings of historic performances, including first pressings of Rachmaninoff and Medtner playing their own compositions.

Tribute concert

As a fitting tribute to his patronage of Western classical Music, a piano recital followed. Large screens flanked the stage and while the visuals were informative, they distracted from the piano performance by Syed Fateen Ahmed, just 15 years of age. Though a full-time student, Syed's love of music spurs him to dedicate a daily hour practising the piano.

The repertoire showed his impressive range of keyboard mastery. He wisely chose short pieces for his programme, given that the heterogenous audience had but a few western music aficionados.

The beautifully lyrical opening bars of Mendelssohn's Rondo Capriccioso Op. 14 were a welcome change. Syed's sensitive rendition bodes well, as he will probably bring even more interpretive feeling as he matures emotionally. He also brought the necessary romantic dimension to the Rondo tune, then shifted effortlessly to the flurry of fortissimo octaves of the conclusion.

Podcasts of the Maharaja's speeches, beginning with his coronation speech in 1940 were released on the occasion

Rachmaninoff was a favourite composer of both Jayacharamaraja Wadiyar and his sister, Rani Vijaya Devi of Kotda Sangani, whose favourite piece, Rachmaninoff's famous Prelude in C# Minor, was played in her memory.

The programme concluded with Nicolas Medtner's 'Fairy Tales' Op.26, No.3.

The maharaja's generous support of the struggling composer and performer ensured that his music survived.

Though Jayachamaraja Wadiyar never met him, Rani Vijaya Devi, also a brilliant pianist, played Rachmaninoff for Medtner when she met him. Mysore Foundation published the memorial Volume, *Nicolas Medtner (1879-1951): A Tribute to his Art and Personality.*

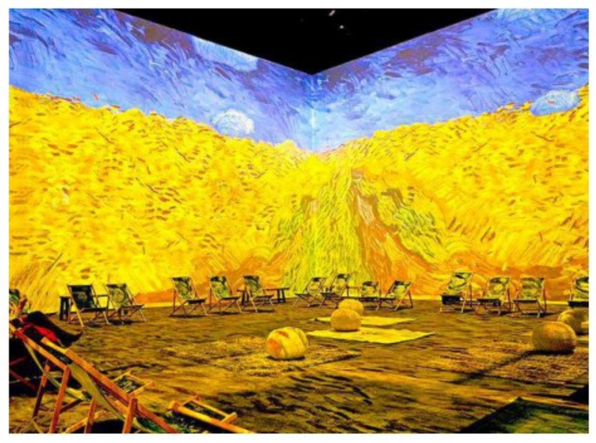
A well-deserved revival of Medtner opus

Given the family's association with Medtner, Syed was requested to include one of his pieces. Its delightful melody had immediate appeal, and its restrained romanticism made for very attractive listening.

This Medtner Opus has been rediscovered and is enjoying a well-deserved revival, a pleasing justification for the confidence the maharaja had in the once obscure composer.

For the Encore, Syed was joined by his younger sister in Astor Piazzolla's Libertango, arranged for 4 hands.

While Falisha provided the bass tango rhythm, the liberation of the title was apparent in the jazz-spiked melody played by Syed, bringing the programme to an upbeat close.



Van Gogh 360 now in Bengaluru

Vincent Van Gogh is perhaps one of the best known Impressionist artists of all time, with works such as The Starry Night and sunflower renditions finding a firm place in pop culture.

The exhibition Van Gogh 360° uses cutting-edge projection technology to give viewers a never-before seen perspective to the great master's work. The 3D show will highlight details of close to 300 of Van Gogh's works that will give the term 'immersive experience' a whole new meaning.

With the aid of the latest in projection technology, viewers will be treated to projections that will bring to life the brushstrokes, detail and colour, of the artist's work. The 40-minute show plays on a loop to an original classical instrumental score composed by a Canadian musician.

Van Gogh 360° Bengaluru is produced and promoted by BookMyShow Live and is also likely to stop at Chennai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Jaipur, Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhopal, Lucknow, Nagpur, Pune, Indore, Goa and Surat, later in the year.

Van Gogh 360° opens at Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru on August 8 and will continue till September 8, 2023.

Tickets for the Bengaluru exhibition are available on bookmyshow.com and are priced at ₹1099 for Monday to Friday, and ₹1499 for Saturday and Sunday.

HC seeks govt. response to NSS plea to quash case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Monday sought the response of the State government to a writ petition by Nair Service Society (NSS) vice-president Sangeeth Kumar seeking to quash a case registered against him for taking out a 'Namajapa Ghoshayatra' in protest against Speaker A.N. Shmaseer's controversial statement on god Ganesha.

The petitioner contended that the allegations made in the FIR did not disclose the commission of any offence or make out a case against the accused. The prosecution had no case that any of the participants had used any force or exhibited any show of force. The petitioner pointed out that the thousands of identifiable persons who had participated in the peaceful protest were living in a constant state of fear. The police *suo motu* registered the case with Mr. Sangeeth Kumar as the first accused along with 1,000 identifiable persons who are office-bearers and activists of the NSS.

Mr. Shamseer's appeal to students to enshrine science over a literalist interpretation of religion at a school assembly in his constituency in Kannur in Thalassery last week has triggered a political storm in Kerala.

Kerala LoP objects to SHRC Chairperson appointment

Satheesan says he was not intimated of the move to appoint retired Chief Justice S. Manikumar to the post though he is a member of the selection panel; sends State government a dissent note

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan has disagreed with the government's purported move to appoint retired Chief Justice S. Manikumar as State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) Chairperson.

In a statement here on Monday, Mr. Satheesan said the Leader of the Opposition was a panel member mandated to select a person to the sensitive top post.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Speaker A.N. Shamseer were the other two permanent members.

> The State government chose to present a single name in the meeting. The government action is anti-democratic, arbitrary and pregnant with political intrigue
>
> **V.D. SATHEESAN**
> Kerala Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Satheesan alleged that the government forsook the political propriety of keeping the Leader of the Opposition in the loop and arbitrarily decided on an individual they liked.

The government submitted no panel of candidates to the selection committee to make an informed choice. Instead, it chose to present a single name in the meeting.

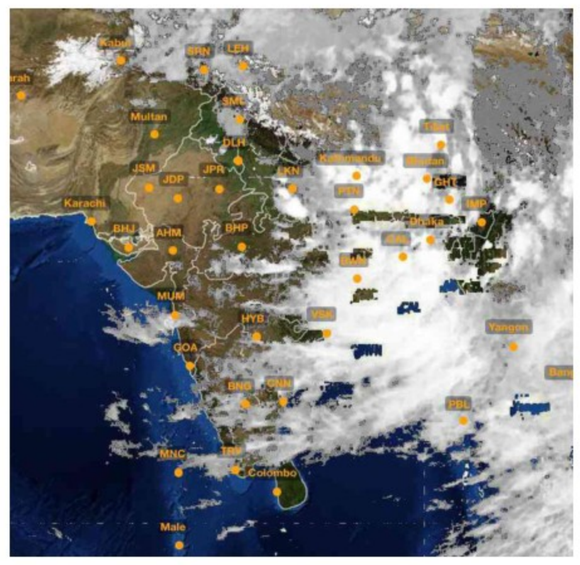
"The government action is anti-democratic, arbitrary and pregnant with political intrigue," Mr. Satheesan said.

Non-partisan manner

Mr. Satheesan said Mr. Manikumar's actions as Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court had raised the question of whether he could discharge his duty as SHRC chairman in a non-partisan and just manner. Earlier, Mr. Satheesan had alleged a conflict of interest in the government hosting an official send-off for the outgoing Chief Justice.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal and Jharkhand. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	47.4	29.0	25.3	Kozhikode	2	33.0	25.1
Ahmedabad	—	32.3	26.8	Kurnool	0.2	34.2	24.8
Aizawl	16	30.5	21.4	Lucknow	13	33.2	25.1
Allahabad	—	30.6	27.3	Madurai	22	39.6	25.1
Bengaluru	2.2	29.6	20.6	Mangaluru	6.6	29.4	24.2
Bhopal	—	—	—	Mumbai	3	31.2	27.5
Bhubaneswar	—	32.1	24.6	Mysuru	—	31.8	24.0
Chandigarh	25	33.9	25.6	New Delhi	—	34.5	26.8
Chennai	—	37.3	28.8	Patna	3	28.5	26.1
Coimbatore	—	33.8	23.6	Port Blair	2	31.2	26.0
Dehradun	41	32.5	25.2	Puducherry	0.6	37.4	26.4
Gangtok	28	21.4	18.7	Pune	0.6	28.8	22.8
Goa	0.5	31.9	25.5	Raipur	12	29.8	25.0
Guwahati	4	33.8	26.2	Ranchi	6	25.6	23.4
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	13	26.1	19.0
Hyderabad	—	31.0	23.2	Shimla	18	—	19.4
Imphal	0.3	29.2	21.6	Srinagar	—	29.5	19.7
Jaipur	—	32.5	25.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.3	25.2
Kochi	—	30.4	26.2	Tiruchi	—	38.6	27.6
Kohima	7	22.1	18.5	Vijayawada	—	36.0	28.8
Kolkata	3	29.3	27.1	Visakhapatnam	—	34.0	28.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.20	..44	.37	46	99	.....
Bengaluru	.11	..17	.76	27	87	.....
Chennai	...5	..32	.45	68	64	.....
Delhi	..—	3	107	81	...106	.....
Hyderabad	...5	..50	.27	45	97	.....
Kolkata	.14	..24	.28	47	49	.....
Lucknow	...7	7	.69	47	51	.....
Mumbai	..—	..29	122	77	82	.....
Pune	132	218	108	71	63	.....
Visakhapatnam	.16	..39	.18	57	...115	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Samastipur, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 199 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Balladeer Gaddar laid to rest with full State honours as many join his final rites

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Last journey: People join in the funeral procession of Telangana folk singer, poet and balladeer Gaddar. G. RAMAKRISHNA

As slogans 'Gaddar Amar Rahe' rented the air and revolutionary songs played and sung by hundreds of artists, the final procession of balladeer Gaddar travelled through Hyderabad before he was laid to rest with full State honours at Maha Bodhi Vidyalaya, the school built by him.

The rites were held as per the Buddhist customs with his family members, public representatives and thousands of followers watching and singing the revolutionary songs, some of them written by the late Gaddar himself. Slogans of 'Lal Salaam and Johar Gaddar' were raised even as the police personnel fired in the air as per the protocol of the State honours.

Gaddar passed away on Sunday while undergoing treatment in a hospital and the government announced the performing of last rites with State honours.

Earlier, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao reached the house of Gaddar located at Bhudevinagar in Alwal and paid floral tributes to the departed balladeer.

Political leaders recalled their association with him and his role in the separate Telangana movement.

Polavaram evacuees to get settlement soon

The Hindu Bureau
KUNAVARAM

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Monday promised that the first phase of the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) package for the Polavaram project evacuees would be settled before the Assembly elections in 2024.

"The first phase of the R&R package has been settled for those falling within the +41.5 contour level of the Polavaram irrigation project. However, 48 habitations in 32 villages that are located above +41.5 contour are also facing the submergence threat and all these habitations have been included in the first phase of the R&R drive," said the Chief Minister said while addressing the victims of the Godavari and Sabari floods.

The State is preparing to release the ₹3.2 lakh package for each displaced family and it is part of the promise of ₹10 lakh package per family of evacuees. "Once approved by the Central Cabinet, the first phase of the package will be implemented," he said.

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF KPCL, BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

NO: KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT388 DATE: 31.07.2023

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement portal only)

Tenders are invited under "WORKS" category as per YTPS requirements in GoK e-procurement website **www.kppp. karnataka.gov.in** for **Supply, Erection, testing and commissioning of Natural Draft Cooling Tower for HVAC System.** Further details can be had from the Executive Engineer(M)-4, YTPS, RPCL, Yeramarus-584 134, Dist. Raichur, Tele/Fax: 08532-286003, Cell: +919480682552, **www.karnatakapower.com**

ANDHRA PRADESH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LIMITED
(Government of AP Undertaking)
3rd Floor, R & B Building, Opp. Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium, MG Road, Labbipet, Vijayawada - 520 010, Andhra Pradesh, India

Ref. No. : ITC51-15021/2/2023-PROC-APTS, Dt. 08-08-2023

PRESS NOTE

A.P. Technology Services Limited intends to procure 5 Lakh Nos. of Tablets PCs for the VIII class students for the AY 2023-24 on behalf of the School Education Department of AP. As part of the activity APTSL has submitted tender document to the judicial preview committee in respect of procurement of 5 Lakh Nos. of Tablets PCs. All the stake holders i.e. Aspirant Bidders and General Public are requested to furnish their advices, comments, remarks and objections if any to the Judicial Preview Committee through the following online website or email on or before: **16-08-2023 up to 5.00 PM.**
Website: **https://judicialpreview.ap.gov.in**/ Email IDs: 1) **judge-jpp@ap.gov.in** 2) **apjudicialpreview@gmail.com**

Sd/- **Managing Director, A.P. Technology Services Ltd., Vijayawada.**

ತುಮಕೂರು ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ಬೆಳಗುಂಬ ರಸ್ತೆ, ತುಮಕೂರು-572103

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: TUDA-LBPAS-00057/2022-23/CLU ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02-08-2023

ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಯೋಜನಾ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1961 ರ ಕಲಂ 14(ಎ) ರನ್ವಯ)

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಇದೇ ಸಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 23-02-2023 ರಂದು ಹೊಸದಿಂಗತ ಮತ್ತು ಉದಯವಾಣಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿರುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಎ/ಗು ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋರಿರುವ ಭೂ ಉಪಯೋಗದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣವು 03ಎ-03ಪೈಕಿ (0-09 ಗುಂ ಆ ಖರಾಬು ಜಾತಾ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಉಳಿಕೆ 2 ಎ 34 ಗುಂಟೆ ಪೈಕಿ 2 ಎಕರೆ 20.08 ಗುಂಟೆ ಎಂಬುದರ ಬದಲಾಗಿ 03ಎ- 12 ಗುಂಟೆ (0-09 ಗುಂ ಆ ಖರಾಬು ಜಾತಾ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಉಳಿಕೆ 3 ಎ 03ಗು ಪೈಕಿ 0-10 ಗು ಪ್ರದೇಶವನ್ನು ಮಹಾಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು 0-19 ಗು ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶವನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಉಳಿದ 2 ಎಕರೆ 14 ಗು ಜಮೀನನ್ನು ವಸತಿ ವಲಯದಿಂದ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ (ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ) ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಭೂ ಉಪಯೋಗ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಎಂದು ತಿದ್ದಿ ಒದಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ತುಮಕೂರು

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited

SL. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads for Road works and water supply works in ABD area Under Smart City Mission (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kallampalli Street, Road ID 57.				
1	Kothuval to Sabhapathi Kovil Street (ID 41)	2023_SCTLT_550644_3	Rs.4,57,70,352	09-Aug-2023
2	Pazhayasalai Road (ID 44)	2023_SCTLT_550949_2	Rs.4,50,51,533	10-Aug-2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail.
All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560 002.

No.BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/1041/2023-24 **FORM III** Date: 31-07-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening of Bannerghatta Main Road from Jedimara Junction at Outer Ring Road, to Koli Form Junction** for implementing the proposals of the approved Master Plan-2015.

The following land/building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk : **Bengaluru South** Name of the Village: **Kalena Agrahara Village**

Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the land/ plot and Extent in Sq.m		Boundaries of the Land/ Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m.	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout/ Developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy.No.7/1, BBMP Khata Sl.No.1751	Vacant Land			Converted A Khata Land		744.90 Sqm		Sy No.8/4A	Sy No.7/2	Bannerghatta Main Road	Remaining portion of Sy.No.7/1	None	None	None	Vacant	72,000/- per Sqm	Karnataka Jesuit Educational Society, Loyala Mandir, No.96, Lavellae Road, 3rd Cross, Bengaluru-560 001.

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below.

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office	Special Land Acquisition Officer, 1st Floor, Room No.107, Annex Building-3, N. R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560 002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
'JAL BHAVAN', No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout
Bannerghatta Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 029
Phone : 080-41106507 - 18.
e-mail: cekwbbng@gmail.com website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP only)

The tender for the following work is invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement from eligible agencies as detailed below:

KWB/CE(B)/DCE/AE-3/Bidadi-WSS/TND-Vol-IV/470/2023-24 Dt: 07.08.2023

1) Name and description of work : Crossing pipeline across National highway 275 and railway by trenchless technology under water supply scheme to Bidadi town, KHB layout & 9 enroute villages with Manchnabele reservoir as source on lumpsum basis.

Work Indent No: KUWSDB/2023-24/WS/WORK_INDENT35

Approximate value of work Rs. : 157.61 Lakhs (excluding GST):

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. : 2,80,000/-

Tender Processing fee (Rs.): As per e-procurement portal

Calendar of Events:-

1) Last Date & Time for seeking Queries / Clarifications : 16-08-2023 at 11.00 hours. 2) Date of Pre bid meeting : 16-08- 2023 at 11.30 hours. 3) Last date and time for submission / uploading of the tender in the e-procurement portal : 22-08-2023 upto 17.30 hours. 4) Date and time for opening of Technical bid: 24-08-2023 after 11.00 hours

For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer (B), KUWS & D Board, Bengaluru, may please be contacted or website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or e-Procurement helpdesk 91-8046010000 / +91-8068948777, email support: support@eprochelpdesk.com.

DIPR/CP/824/AKAR/2023-24 **Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER (B), KUWS & D BOARD, Bengaluru**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-Procurement portal only)

KPCL invites online Tender through GoK e-procurement Website: **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in** for the following works.

1). KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT395, Date: 28.07.2023, Upgradation of existing UPS-1&2 (105KVA) and SSVS(Auxiliary panel) of RTPS Unit # 8(1 x 250MW) to latest DSP based system with modified digital charger by retaining existing ACDB panels power and control cables and battery banks. EMD: **Rs. 1,39,710/-.**

2). KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT399, Date: 28.07.2023, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 19 inch LCD flat monitor of industrial grade with RCB-BNC type input connection required for diagnostic station of Pro-control system (FSSS & ATRS) of RTPS - Unit #7. EMD: **Rs. 21,978/-.**

Last date & time for receipt of tender: **26.08.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.** for Sl. No. 1 & **14.08.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.** for Sl. No. 2. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (I-4), RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar - 584170, Raichur District.** Mobile No.: **94495 96558.** Website: **www.kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

(Government of Karnataka)
HUBBALLI-DHARWAD BRTS COMPANY LTD.
(Formerly known as Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Co. Ltd.)
(Directorate of Urban Land Transport)
Office: 2nd Floor, 'B' Block, NWKRTC New Bus Terminal, Near New Court, Hosur, Hubballi–580021
Phone No.: 0836-2222007 Fax No.:0836-2322700
E-Mail : hdbrts@gmail.com

No: HDBRTS/ITS/PMC/2023-24/51 Date : 07-08-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR HIRING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY (PMC)

The Hubballi-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd invites bids through e-procurement portal from reputed institutions/ companies for providing the Intelligent Transit System (ITS) Project Management Consultancy (PMC) through the e-procurement reference number HDBRTS/2023-24/SE0002. The eligible bidders may obtain the tender documents through e-procurement portal of Karnataka https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in the bidders are requested to submit their bids on or before **19.08.2023** 16:00 hrs. The interested parties are requested to send queries if any to the above address to reach the authority by **10.08.2023**.

Sd/- General Manager (ITS&Operations)
Hubballi Dharwad BRTS Co. Ltd
DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/144/2023-24 **Hubballi**

Stifling dissent

Pakistan's establishment seems intent on using all means to thwart Imran

For the second time in three months, Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan has been arrested, this time after a conviction in a case involving the misappropriation of official gifts meant for the 'Toshakhana'. He was last arrested on May 9 in the 'Al Qadir' trust case charge sheet. The latest conviction, which carries a sentence of three years, means that he is now disqualified from Parliament for the next five years, and will not be able to stand for election in polls due by November. Last week, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had announced that he would dissolve Parliament on August 9, after which an interim government will step in. It is significant that Mr. Khan's arrest came days before the transition. The legal battle Mr. Khan faces now is formidable, but he is by no means the first Pakistani Prime Minister to face jail time and disqualification. During his tenure, his government had pursued cases against former Prime Ministers Nawaz Sharif and Shahid Khaqan and other major Opposition leaders including former President Asif Ali Zardari. The common factor is that all these arrests appear orchestrated not so much by political rivalry, but due to problems with the powerful military. In Mr. Khan's case, he faced months of house arrest under former Pakistan President General Pervez Musharraf, but subsequently came to good terms with the military. His stunning electoral win in 2018 was believed to have been achieved with General Qamar Bajwa's blessings. However, after they developed differences, Mr. Khan's political troubles began to mount.

The government's actions are excessive by any measure. The case Mr. Khan has been arrested for is just one amidst about 100 cases he has been charged in ever since he was ousted from office in April 2022. Apart from the litany of legal cases against him and his family, there has been a systematic attempt to prosecute leaders of his party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf. In addition, cases of terrorism, sedition and blasphemy against Mr. Khan and his colleagues indicate there could be more serious sentences to follow. At the same time, his ouster from power and the cases have not visibly challenged his popularity in Pakistan, going by the by-election results last October, and the anger after his arrest in May. In that sense, the fact that his conviction and arrest in the latest case were not accompanied by similar protests is not an achievement for Pakistan's government, but demonstrates the effectiveness of its establishment in silencing public expression. None of this augurs well for Pakistan's democracy.

Beyond the hype

Independent verification is crucial on claims about material LK-99

Unlike most other developments in the field of condensed-matter physics, every new claim of room-temperature superconductivity will monopolise headlines worldwide and kick up tremendous hype. Late last month, researchers in South Korea announced – via two preprint papers uploaded to the arXiv repository – that they had found a material they called LK-99 to be a superconductor at room temperature and ambient pressure. Conventional superconductors (i.e., those whose superconducting abilities can be explained by the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer theory) are distinguished by four features, one of which has implications for industrial, research, and diagnostic applications that are impossible to overstate: they can transport an electric current with zero loss. Scientists have been looking for a material that can superconduct without having to be cooled to very low temperatures and which does not require the application of extreme pressure. According to the new claim, LK-99 fits the bill. It is copper-substituted lead apatite. While there have been quite a few claims in the last century of scientists having discovered room-temperature superconductors, LK-99 has triggered more excitement, presumably because the group's preprint papers are free to access, include some data pointing in the right direction, and contain instructions to synthesise it and test its properties.

In a coincidental irony, 'apatite' is derived from the Greek 'to deceive'. All the claims of scientists having found a room-temperature (and ambient pressure) superconductor so far have failed to withstand independent scrutiny. A room-temperature and -pressure superconductor is an immensely valuable thing, attached to significant material as well as scientific prestige. This could prompt scientists to rush to publish their results before proper data verification. Thus, independent verification by qualified scientists becomes crucial – for which the South Korean group must share all the data. Checking if a material is a superconductor is difficult, requiring sophisticated equipment as well as information about how precisely to create the material in question. For another claim this year, of a material that reportedly superconducts near room temperature and under much less pressure than others of its kind, its originators shared instructions to synthesise it but refused to share samples, claiming they constituted intellectual property. While this may be, their refusal vitiated the proper process of science in the face of such an extraordinary claim. Finally, despite the lucre of a potentially revolutionary technology, and bearing in mind that the margin of error in superconductivity research is very small, non-experts should wait for independent verification, even if it is slow to come, from a qualified research group before making up their mind about it.

China's worldview, its postulates and a reality check

M.K. Narayanan

is a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser, and a former Governor of West Bengal

Chinese leaders, especially current paramount leader, Xi Jinping, constantly refer to 'changes unseen in a Century', implying that the decline of the West-promoted 'rules based order' is inevitable, and that a new Chinese-promoted world order is set to prevail. Implicit also is that a Chinese-driven world is better suited to a world defined by disorder, asymmetry and fragmentation.

'Changes unseen in a Century' is one of the underlying principles of 'Xi Jinping Thought'. This presupposes that the struggle for future dominance revolves around not merely military security but also technological, cultural, as also biological aspects, and that given China's rise, accelerated by technology and shaped by its economic strength and demographic potential, its success is inevitable.

U.S. as the main threat

The current crop of Chinese leaders believes that ongoing threats to China, however, remain and that the main threat comes from the United States. They hew to the view that growing polarisation within U.S. society and loss of power across the globe were impacting U.S. attitudes, causing tensions between the U.S. and China. In turn, it had led to a marked shift in U.S. attitudes; from an earlier policy of 'engagement and partial containment' to one of all-out competition with China, for global influence. The war in Ukraine, talk of an increasing divide between democracies and autocracies, the forging of new security partnerships such as the AUKUS (Australia, the United Kingdom and the U.S.) and the Quad (Australia, India, Japan and the U.S.) were all symptoms of this malaise. China also had increased concerns that the Ukraine war could lead the U.S. to be more assertive on Taiwan. Beijing's riposte has been to enlarge its Global Security Initiative (GDI) and further expand the China-led Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

Chinese scholars further believe that the world has currently entered an era of 'Polycentric Competition and Cooperation'. According to China, the U.S. was unprepared, however, for a shift of this nature, and already the consequences could be seen, as for instance, in West Asia. Here, as in many areas of U.S. dominance previously, China was displacing the U.S. The Iran-Saudi Arabia truce brought about at China's initiative was an indication that U.S. influence here was on the wane and that China was gaining in strength in the regional and global sweepstakes.

China's influence, in the meantime, had grown, according to Chinese sources, in quite a few international organisations such as the World Health Organization. It had also succeeded in binding as many countries as possible to Chinese systems, norms and standards. Another set of claims is that China had succeeded in having a decisive voice in various international standards setting bodies. Consequently, Chinese standards had become the staple for many countries and, together with its model of subsidised state capital, China was set to emerge triumphant.

> China might need to come up with an alternative theory of modernity if it hopes to beat the West's free market concepts and beliefs, but the odds are stacked against it

Prescriptions and reverses

Leaving aside for the moment China's worldview, and its theoretical postulates as formulated by Deng Xiaoping such as the 'Four Modernizations' (which paved the way for China's emergence as an economic superstar), the reality that China confronts today appears somewhat different. The issue before China is not one of the decline of the U.S., as much as how China can possibly reproduce the mind-boggling growth of the first two decades of the current century – an over 800% increase in overall trade volume, an unimaginable increase in GDP, and the lifting of nearly 800 million Chinese people out of poverty. Policy prescriptions needed to maintain this kind of impetus and tempo of growth, are nowhere in evidence today.

In marked contrast, Beijing's current economic prescriptions have led to serious reverses in recent years. Many of these policies stem from Mr. Xi's efforts to provide safeguards for his more orthodox version of Communist philosophy as distinguished from a market-oriented policy, accompanied by a determination to increase governmental control in the economic realm, restrict private enterprise, and achieve greater rule by decree.

The COVID-19 pandemic which necessitated adoption of certain draconian measures, including an unprecedented three-year lockdown, has been responsible for a severe economic setback, apart from hardship for its people. Several laws enacted by Beijing to contain the pandemic have again adversely impacted the image of China in the eyes of the world. Many multinational concerns have, hence, preferred to leave China, being uncertain of what the future holds. Beijing's crackdown on major technology companies and the real-estate sector have only added to the concerns of investors already grappling with the loss of several billions of dollars in market value.

If China is to try and outdistance the U.S. in a period that Beijing itself affirms as featuring both Polycentric Competition and Cooperation, Beijing will need to make several shifts and changes in both approach and policy. However, the odds are stacked against China. China's current GDP growth has declined to around 3%, while China will need to more than double this figure to ensure healthy growth. Employment risks have increased and lack of employment among youth is no longer a statistic but an aspect of grave concern. An ageing population adds to these concerns. Evidently, major shifts and changes in both approach and policies are called for, including a new economic model and an undertaking to raise wages and pursue other economic and structural reforms. What China needs to realise is that it might need to come up with an alternative theory of modernity, reducing the role of the state in promoting innovation so as to bolster the economy, if at all it hopes to beat the West's free market concepts and beliefs.

The real question is whether China can indeed produce a model that can supplant the West's so-called 'rule based international order' and create one better suited to a fragmented world order. In turn, much would also depend on whether the Chinese view that the West is disintegrating is true. The only purpose the war in Ukraine has served is to demonstrate that when 'push comes to shove', a disunited West can rally its forces under U.S. auspices and effectively checkmate Russia. It could be seen as a vivid demonstration of the superiority of 'free will' over 'managed systems'.

China is, no doubt, contemplating putting in place certain corrective steps. Beijing's decision to appoint an acknowledged economist with a proven record as Governor of the Peoples' Bank of China, can be expected to boost global confidence in China's banking sector. It could be a steadying influence during a period of uncertainty and might have a favourable impact. The new Chinese Premier, Li Qiang, is again apparently making serious efforts to reinvigorate the private sector, but it is uncertain whether he would go so far as to convert China into a multi-oriented economy which satisfies the international business community. All this is still history in the making.

On Taiwan

The issue of Taiwan, like Banquo's ghost, also hovers over the scene. Notwithstanding current tensions and despite sabre-rattling by both sides, it would seem that a major conflict on the lines of the Ukraine conflict – one that could impact both the fortunes of China and much of the world in the Asia-Pacific region – is not yet on the anvil. Any such conflict would have a severe and deleterious impact on the global economy. Notwithstanding this, neither the U.S. nor China can possibly step back from the issue of Taiwan. One possible scenario is that it might induce more realistic efforts to define objectives of which Taiwan is merely a symbol. Strategic commentators believe that Taiwan is only one of several areas where China and the U.S. will find themselves in conflict in the coming period. Finding common ground at this time would be important to ensure that matters do not go out of control.

Neither the right to privacy nor the right to information

Reetika Khera

is a professor of economics at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

'Personal data bill will boost digital economy, says Nasscom.' This industry response to the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill 2023 that was introduced in Parliament reveals the real purpose of the Bill – legalising data mining rather than safeguarding the right to privacy.

The right to privacy was reaffirmed by a nine-judge Constitutional bench of the Supreme Court in 2017. It set an international benchmark and illustrated the new challenges to the right to privacy posed by the digital age. The DPDP Bill 2023, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha last week, is an outcome of the debate around the right to privacy.

The right to information provides us access to government documents to ensure transparency and accountability of the government. Enacted as a law, the Right to Information Act (RTI) 2005 has played a critical role in deepening democratic practices. The much-awaited DPDP Bill 2023 ends up undermining our right to information, without doing much to protect our right to privacy.

Complementary or competing rights?

In a crucial way, the two rights complement each other. Broadly speaking, the right to information seeks to make the government transparent to us, while the right to privacy is meant to protect us from government (and increasingly, private) intrusions into our lives.

Yet, there are some tensions between the right to information and the right to privacy. For example, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), mandatory disclosure provisions are meant to ensure that workers can monitor expenditure and also facilitate public scrutiny through social audits. Everyone has access to data about individuals registered under the Act, including when and how much was paid to each worker. The flip side of this, that has become apparent in recent times, is that unscrupulous operators can monitor, even scrape data systematically to swindle workers of their hard-earned wages (for example, showing up at their doorstep with offers of lucrative 'savings' or 'insurance' or with wares to sell).

> The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill 2023 makes the government less transparent to the people and ends up making them transparent to both the government and private interests

However, the recently introduced DPDP Bill 2023 makes little attempt to deal with these hard questions. Instead, it makes the government less transparent to us while making us transparent to both the government and private interests.

The Bill states that it is "A Bill to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises both the right of individuals to protect their personal data and the need to process such data for lawful purposes". Section 4(2) defines "lawful purposes" in the broadest possible manner as "any purpose which is not expressly forbidden by the law". Thus, as scraping information on wages/pensions paid to workers/ pensioners or mobile numbers of government scheme beneficiaries from government portals is "not expressly forbidden", data mining can merrily continue. Section 36 allows the central government to ask the Board, data fiduciary or others to "furnish such information as it may call for". Sections 4(2) and 36 together make our data fair game for both government and private entities.

Undermining the Right to Information

The Right to Information Act 2005 anticipated some of these tensions and the consequent need to limit its own reach. Therefore, Section 8 of the RTI 2005 listed situations where "exemption from disclosure of information" would be granted.

Section 8(1)(j) grants exemption from disclosure if the information which relates to personal information sought "has no relationship to any public activity or interest, or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual", unless a public information officer feels that larger public interest justifies disclosure. It set a high benchmark for exemption - "information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person." The DPDP Bill 2023 suggests replacing Section 8(1)(j) with just "information which relates to personal information".

This will undermine the RTI 2005. To give just one example, the current requirement for public servants (including judges, and Indian Administrative Service officers) to disclose their immovable assets will likely be off limits. This is indeed "information related to personal information", but it serves a larger public interest (for example, to identify public servants with disproportionate assets).

Ignoring social, political and legal context

The DPDP 2023 suffers from other shortcomings. For instance, the Data Protection Board, an oversight body will be under the boot of the government as the chairperson and members are to be appointed by the central government (Section 19). The DPDP Bill 2023 attempts to pass off a lame-duck as a watchdog.

In Europe, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) set a high standard for data protection. It has a strong watchdog that operates in a society with universal literacy, and high digital and financial literacy. For instance, in France, the data protection regulator was able to fine Google €50 million for violation of policies related to consent. Yet, Edward Snowden warned of the real danger of GDPR becoming a "paper tiger", that "the problem isn't data protection, the problem is data collection." Restricting data collection is not even being discussed in India.

A weak board combined with the lack of universal literacy and poor digital and financial literacy, as well as an overburdened legal system, mean that the chances that citizens will be able to seek legal recourse when privacy harms are inflicted on them are slim.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Station redevelopment

The revamp of 508 Amrit Bharat railways stations is a case of misplaced priorities (Page 1, August 7).

If 75% of this staggering amount of ₹24,470 crore had been spent on railway track renewal and upgrading signal and safety-related upgradation, passengers could have looked forward to safer train journeys. Many thousands of kilometres could have been upgraded. The much-touted Vande Bharat trains could have had faster speeds as at present their speed is limited by tracks, thereby nullifying the ballyhoo of a speed of 180 kilometres an hour. Improvements to railway stations should be mainly in providing user amenities such as escalators, waiting areas, ensuring hygiene, and better vehicle parking. What do fancy facades costing hundreds of crores achieve? Cannot the slowest passenger trains be moved faster saving crores of man hours for the poorest of the poor?

D.M. Mohunta,
Chennai

Tiger numbers

Half-a-century ago, India launched an ambitious new project to protect the tiger. Now, the new tiger numbers reflect the success of conservation efforts.

But tiger conservation remains a sensitive and challenging task. The threat of habitat fragmentation and climate change are real. A significant chunk of the tiger population lives outside designated reserves, resulting in rising man-animal conflict.

T.K.R. Noori,
Hyderabad

Gaddar

People's balladeer Gaddar must be remembered for the way he knitted thoughts of revolution and the need for progress. Though branded a Maoist party sympathiser, he was admired politically.

Satish Reddy Kanaganti,
Tipparthi, Telangana

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Purging the nation's data of politics

Pulapre Balakrishnan
is an economist

K.S. James, director of the International Institute for Population Studies at Mumbai, an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has been suspended, ostensibly to allow for an investigation of recruitment practices in the institution (*The Hindu*, July 30). A media report (The Wire, July 28) states that the development follows the publication of the fifth National Family Health Survey report (NFHS-5), produced by the institute.

As the institute has produced the report periodically for over two decades, and the director himself is a trained demographer, we would expect that the data are as robust as can be. It has been speculated that the government is peeved by some of its findings, and hence the move. There have been instances in the past when the axe came down on some periodic publications of India's national data agencies. Thus, the Consumer Expenditure Survey for 2017-18 conducted by the National Sample Survey Office was shelved. The official reason given was that it was methodologically flawed. As with the NFHS, these periodic surveys had been undertaken for decades. It is difficult to imagine that the last one suddenly adopted a questionable method.

Past record

In the case of the Consumer Expenditure Survey, it has been suggested based on leaked information, that the final report was suppressed as it showed a decline in aggregate consumption. At the time, leading commentators argued that this would be an anomaly in a growing economy, implying that there was good reason to have withheld the publication of the report. The argument is flawed, though, for a decline in total consumption can occur even in a growing economy when the income distribution shifts towards the rich.

Then, there was the Periodic Labour Force Survey for 2017-18, which was ready for release in early 2019 but was published only after the parliamentary elections held that May. It is believed that the government delayed the release as the report showed unemployment to be at a 45-year high in 2017-18. The recorded rise in unemployment is not surprising as growth of production in the non-agricultural private sector slowed considerably following the demonetisation.

Two contravening findings

The media report referenced above has pointed to two findings in NFHS-5 that may have caused discomfiture to the government. The first is that the level of anaemia has risen across all sections of the population, quite alarmingly among children. The levels recorded are indeed disturbing, with over half of India's women in the age group 15-49 years reportedly anaemic. This does not sit well with the idea of an economy poised to be the third largest in the world in a matter of years, which the government takes credit for.

But is the finding itself implausible? The survey for NFHS-5 was conducted over 2019-21. There was a marked increase in food-price inflation during this period, with the monthly inflation rate for food surging from -1.3% in January 2019 to a staggering 12.1% in December of that year. While it may have declined since, it stayed high by historical standards for the next 24 months. Anaemia is partly related to food intake. It is possible that the higher price of food during the period of the survey contributed to its rise. In addition to the higher inflation, income had contracted during 2020-21 due to COVID-19.

A second finding reported in NFHS-5 shows that India has some way to go before it can be declared 'open defecation free' with any confidence. While NFHS-5 shows a substantial rise in the percentage of households using an "improved sanitation facility" since 2015-16, the figure falls short of 100% by about a fifth. Again, is this implausible? The figures for open defecation reported for 2005-06, 2015-16 and 2019-21 are 55%, 39% and 19%, respectively.

Compared to the reduction during the first period that achieved in the second one is actually quite impressive. Indeed, given the magnitude of the backlog in 2015-16 and that ending open defecation requires behavioural change among the population, it is not obvious that a superior outcome could have been achieved, whatever may have been the government's aspiration. Perhaps it is to flag that the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has not failed after all, that when reporting the percentage of households using an improved sanitation facility the NFHS-5 report adds the caveat: "This indicator does not denote access to toilet facility." Such an entry is absent in earlier reports.

Impact of suppression

It would be unfortunate if the suspension of the head of the institution responsible for the NFHS-5 report is related to publishing them. Surveillance of the nation's data agencies would have damaging consequences. First, it introduces an incentive to not reveal outcomes that are likely to be frowned upon by the government of the day. This can jeopardise public policy interventions. Imagine there is an ongoing epidemic. If deaths are deliberately under-reported it could cause complacency in the population, encouraging a risky behaviour that spreads contagion.

Then there is the feature that elections are the means by which the nation chooses the political party they entrust with governance. For the exercise to be credible, citizens must have access to accurate and timely data. Now, national data agencies left to function without fear or favour become vital to a democracy.

M. Parameswaran contributed to the piece

Surveillance of public data agencies can have damaging consequences

Claims, counter claims in Neyveli land row

Farmers protest possession bid, PMK too enters the fray

STATE OF PLAY

S. Prasad
prasad.somasundaram@thehindu.co.in

Neyveli has always been a dusty town in Cuddalore district in northern Tamil Nadu, and it built its reputation from its lignite reserves that helped to generate electricity. However, protests last week, which turned violent, have hit NLC India Ltd. (NLCIL)'s mining expansion plans at Neyveli. Farmers and political parties are objecting to its recent land acquisition exercise that is at the heart of the raging controversy in the district.

A row began at Melvalayamadevi after NLCIL moved to take possession of land, acquired a decade ago, by flattening standing paddy crops. When NLCIL officials arrived with a fleet of earthmovers to take possession of land in which lush paddy crops were standing, the farmers protested vociferously. The destruction of standing crops that were to be harvested in two months, the farmers fumed, was nothing but an act of "outrage and insensitivity."

They now demand higher compensation for their fertile land, besides raising questions over the sustainability of intensive mining operations on plots meant for agriculture. They are not happy with the compensation they had accepted and received a decade ago.

While the public sector undertaking under the Union Ministry of Coal may have its own reasons for delaying taking possession of already acquired lands, the manner in which it sought to bulldoze through standing crops, has stirred a hornet's nest across

Tamil Nadu. The build-up to the protests by the farmers began on July 26, after the NLCIL engaged over 30 earthmovers and flattened large portions of standing crops. This came even amid growing disenchantment over "inadequate compensation and the non-use of the land acquired a decade ago."

Farmers have been demanding that the NLCIL provide compensation as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, which calculates the compensation at the rate of two times the market value in urban areas and four times in rural areas.

Genesis of the problem

The NLCIL had acquired about 304 hectares of land from 2006 to 2015 in six villages abutting the mines. For one acre, farmers were given a compensation ranging from ₹2.6 lakh to ₹6 lakh.

While the farmers were given the compensation, the land remained with the farmers for more than a decade since NLCIL failed to take possession. With the acquired land remaining unused by NLCIL, the farmers had started cultivating crops. It was only in the last one year that NLCIL started the process of taking possession of the land. This is where the problem started.

Meanwhile, land prices have increased manifold and farmers who had enjoyed the benefits by cultivating crops are demanding a higher compensation from the company.

However, the Cuddalore District Administration claimed that it had explicitly told the farmers not to cultivate crops on the acquired land. Of the total 304 hectares acquired by NLCIL, about 273 hectares have already been handed over to the corporation.

For the rest, the NLCIL is also offering enhanced compensation at the rate of ₹25 lakh per acre - it maintains that the acquired lands meant for diversion of the Upper Paravanar canal near Mines 2 are indispensable for the project.

Meanwhile, the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), which enjoys considerable clout in the region, has also entered the fray with the extreme demand that NLCIL shut down operations and exit the State. The PMK's president and Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Anbumani Ramadoss went on record saying that NLCIL is not a development project, but 'a destructive project'.

With tempers flaring, the July 28 stir ended in violence. The agitation is being seen as the crux around which the PMK is seeking to build its political and organisational strength to face the Lok Sabha election due next year. Following the violence, various political outfits, including the opposition AIADMK and representatives of various farmers' associations, expressed their solidarity with the agitating farmers. An end to the crisis is not yet in sight, and only time will tell if this will be a political issue for the upcoming parliamentary polls.

The quest for a room-temperature superconductor

The decades-long search for a room-temperature and ambient-pressure superconductor has been arduous, spanning technologies, materials, and theories

DATA POINT

Vasudevan Mukunth

On July 21, a group of physicists in South Korea reported that they had synthesised a material that was a superconductor at room temperature and ambient pressure. Scientists have been looking for such a material for decades now – a substance that can carry an electric current with zero losses. A not insignificant amount of electric current is lost today during transmission between a power plant and the point of consumption. A room-temperature superconductor would also bring considerable gains for heavy industrial and research applications, including medical diagnostics, mass spectrometers, nuclear reactor designs, and particle colliders. But has the South Korean group really found such a thing?

Superconductivity research is more than a century old, and has developed in tandem with technologies to cool materials to very low temperatures and/or apply very high pressures and techniques to understand whether a material has really become superconducting at the microscopic scale. Both are highly sophisticated enterprises with very small margins of error.

Chart 1 shows some of the more well-known materials ordered by the temperature below which they become superconducting, called the critical temperature (T_c). The jump between magnesium diboride and YBCO, and up to HBCCO, is the result of a revolution in the late 1980s, when physicists discovered the higher-temperature copper-oxide superconductors. The value of T_c makes the difference between cooling the material with liquid helium, which is relatively more difficult, and with liquid nitrogen. Copper-oxides can be cooled with liquid nitrogen to their T_c values. While this chart also shows LaH_{10} to be a room-temperature superconductor, there is a catch: it is one of a few materials that scientists found to become superconducting at or near room temperature but under enormous pressure. **Chart 2** shows these materials and the pressures they require to become superconducting.

In the past, more than a few claims of having discovered a room-temperature superconductor have been retracted after independent scrutiny has revealed some flaw. These are after all lucrative materials attached to significant scientific credibility and honour, so scientists are wary of being 'scooped'. **Chart 3** shows the different types of superconducting materials found.

The field has been rocked by controversies. One was when the German physicist Jan Hendrik Schön published a slew of papers – all retracted later – in 2000 and 2001 claiming, among other things, that he had found evidence of certain organic molecules displaying superconductivity. A more recent one is centred on the Sri Lankan physicist Ranga P. Dias (currently working in the U.S.). In 2022, *Nature* retracted his paper, published in 2020, after independent experts spotted flaws in the experimental data. Last week, *Physical Review Letters* said it had decided after an internal investigation to retract another paper, not about superconductivity, coauthored by Dias. **Chart 4** shows a timeline of papers related to superconductivity that have been retracted (including those that claimed the creation of a superconducting state, described applications based on such materials, and characterised known superconducting states) in 1991-2022.

Finding a room-temperature superconductor remains one of the toughest quests for physicists because it is so easy to make mistakes. This is why the new 'exciting' claim from South Korea will not be accepted until independent verification.

Chart 1 | The chart shows the materials ordered by the temperature, below which they become superconducting (in kelvin)

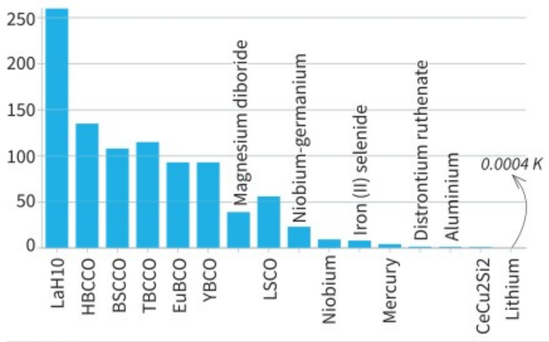


Chart 2 | The chart shows the pressure required to induce a superconducting state in some materials. ● shows the critical pressure and ● shows the critical temperature

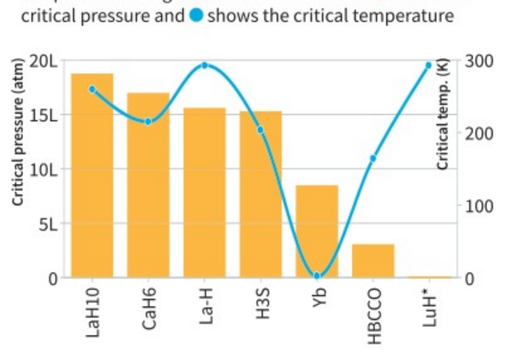


Chart 3 | The chart shows when superconductivity was discovered in each material, grouped by type. The list is not exhaustive

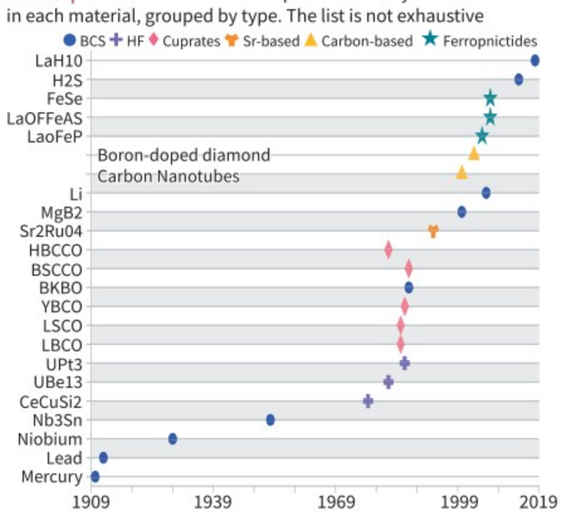
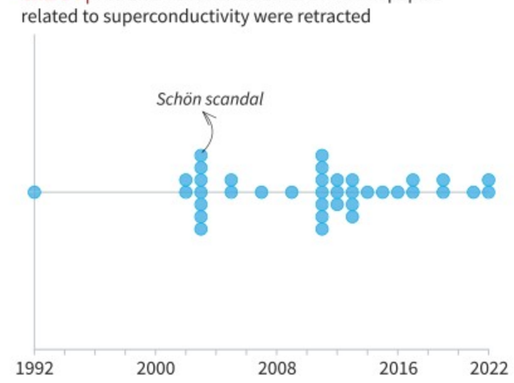


Chart 4 | The chart shows the dates on which papers related to superconductivity were retracted



Note: In Chart 1, T_c values vary depending on the material's properties. Values here are indicative. *Independent experts have raised some concerns with the data. BCS = Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer; HF = Heavy fermion; Sr-based = Strontium-based

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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 8, 1973

No Demonetisation proposal

NEW DELHI, Aug. 7.

The Union Finance Minister categorically stated in the Rajya Sabha to-day that the Government had no proposal to demonetise the currency to unearth black money.

Replying to a five-hour debate on "abnormal rise in prices of essential commodities", Mr. Chavan said the Government had not accepted the Wanchoo Committee's recommendation of demonetisation.

He was referring to widespread rumours in the country about a possible demonetisation.

The Minister said this had created a scare in the minds of the people which would be taken advantage of by profiteers and anti-social elements. Mr. Chavan admitted the existence of parallel economy in the country but said demonetisation was not the only solution to curb the evil of black money. The Finance Minister said the other recommendations of the Wanchoo Committee to unearth black money were being implemented. A Bill to this effect was before Parliament and members' suggestions in this regard would be taken into account before enacting the Bill.

He said the problem of black money was a deep-rooted one and had to be "extensively and continuously" dealt with on all fronts.

Referring to the members' criticism of his previous statements that the present difficult situation was only a passing phase he said he had made the statements because the basic factors of the Indian economy were sound.

On the price issue, Mr. Chavan admitted that the situation was difficult and it might to some extent remains so for sometime to come. The Finance Minister welcomed the use of Defence of India Rules by some State Governments against hoarders and black marketeers and said it would have to be used elsewhere also.–PTI and UNI.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 8, 1923

Passports to Malaya

Associated Press of India

SIMLA, Aug. 7.

A Communique states that, although passports are not required for entry of Indians into Malaya, such documents are essential to enable travellers to enter parts of the Empire and most foreign countries and that an Indian proceeding to Malaya or any other country where passports may not be required, who intends to continue his journey elsewhere, should not neglect to furnish himself with a passport before leaving India.

From Page One

ED takes Tamil Nadu Minister into custody

The judge said the top court has allowed the ED to conduct custodial interrogation until August 12 and based on the order, she said Mr. Senthilbalaji can be taken for custodial interrogation from the judicial custody.

A Supreme Court Bench of Justices A.S. Bopanna and M.M. Sundresh had earlier in the day dismissed the appeals of the Minister and his wife, Megala, challenging a Madras High Court order upholding the power of the ED, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, to have police custody of him. The apex court agreed with the High Court that a habeas corpus petition would not be maintainable after a judicial order for remand under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. The judgment, authored by Justice Sundresh, held that Section 167(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.PC) would also include officers of other investigating agencies, including Enforcement Directorate officers, and not just police personnel.

Rahul Gandhi returns to Parliament as MP

Waiting at the main entrance to the Parliament building, MPs from the INDIA bloc distributed sweets and welcomed him with loud cheers. The Lok Sabha member from Wayanad (Kerala) went to Mahatma Gandhi's statue to offer his respects before entering the House. However, the House was adjourned within minutes.

Mr. Gandhi and Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chairperson Sonia Gandhi also visited the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) office in Parliament to offer their respects to former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, the late M. Karunanidhi, on his death anniversary. When reporters at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters asked Mr. Gandhi for comment, he said, "It is a strange thing, even you people look happy".

Several INDIA bloc leaders hailed Mr. Gandhi's return as an MP, with Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav saying he hoped that the Uttar Pradesh Assembly membership of party leader Azam Khan and his son Abdullah Azam too would be restored. While Jammu and Kashmir National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah said it is very good that Mr. Gandhi is back in the House, CPI general secretary D. Raja said it will strengthen parliamentary democracy.

BJP MP Sushil Kumar Modi, however, played down the restoration of Lok Sabha membership and asserted that Mr. Gandhi has not been acquitted and only a stay has been given on the conviction. "He was there in Parliament earlier also, what difference did it make to the Congress, they still lost elections. So his being in the House should not make the people of the Congress too happy," he said.

He saved three from the mob in Nuh...

Before leaving, Mr. Phogat shared his number with Mr. Anish and extended an invitation to visit his Hisar residence someday.

The call came sooner than expected. On Sunday, Mr. Phogat was informed by his benefactor that his house was partially demolished by the district authorities. He tapped into his police and political connections. "I called the station house officer of the Nuh city police station around 9 p.m. on Sunday and told him that Mr. Anish's house was not used by the rioters and we were witnesses to it. I even sent a WhatsApp message to the Superintendent of Police," he said.

Mr. Phogat then put in a word on Monday morning with Nuh BJP chief Narender Patel through his friend Gautam Sardana, Hisar Mayor. It was all too late.

"After *Bhaisaab* got the call, he asked a senior official to halt any demolition of Mr. Anish's property, but the drive was anyway stopped in view of the court orders," confirmed Sanjay, Mr. Patel's brother. A small-time businessman who owns two trucks, Mr. Anish, a native of Khairthal in Rajasthan, had settled in Nuh three years ago. He wishes he knew about the demolition in time; he and his family were away when the bulldozers arrived and got a phone call only later from a friend. "I was never served any notice prior to the demolition," he claimed. Repeated calls and messages to Ashwini Kumar, the sub-divisional magistrate of Nuh, went unanswered.

HC stays demolition drive in Haryana

"The issue also arises whether the buildings belonging to a particular community are being brought down under the guise of law and order problem and an exercise of ethnic cleansing is being conducted by the State."

The next hearing is scheduled for August 11.

The court said no demolitions could be done without following the procedure as prescribed in law. It asked the State to furnish an affidavit on how many buildings have been demolished in the past two weeks, and whether any notice was issued before demolition. If any such demolition is to be carried out today, it should be stopped if the procedure is not followed as per law."

SC hears Bilkis Bano against premature release of 11 convicts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Cold-blooded brutality and thirst for blood marked the murders and gang rape of at least seven persons, said Bilkis Bano, speaking through her lawyer on Monday in the Supreme Court. She recounted the deaths of at least seven persons, including her three-year-old child, at the hands of rioters in Gujarat in 2002.

"Parts of their bodies were smashed in. Heads and chests..." advocate Shobha Gupta, for Ms. Bano, submitted before a Bench led by Justice B.V. Nagarathna.

She recounted that of the 14 killed on March 3 at Pannivel village, the bodies of only seven were found. "The other bodies went missing," Ms. Gupta told the Bench on the opening day of the hearing.

The court is hearing a series of petitions, including one by Ms. Bano, challenging the premature release of 11 men who were sentenced to life imprisonment for the crime. The case had come up before multiple Benches of the top court but stubbornly remained a non-starter.

The case, at one point, had seen the Supreme Court even wonder whether some of the released convicts were making a "mockery" of or even "playing" with the court by either going incognito to hamper the service of notice of the case or seeking time to file counter affidavits.

The petitioners, other than Ms. Bano, include Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, who said the release "completely fails to bolster either social or human justice"; CPI(M) leader Subhashini Ali; independent journalist and filmmaker Revati Laul; and former philosophy Professor and activist Roop Rekh Varma.

The Gujarat government had relied on its remission policy of 1992 to approve the convicts' applications for remission of the sentence and not the current policy of 2014.

Manipur note says only 1 rape and murder case till July 31

The note submitted in Supreme Court mentions three cases of rape or gang rape, six cases of assault on a woman, 72 cases of murder registered as on July 31; in May, 107 deaths were reported

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

A note presented by the Manipur government in the Supreme Court on Monday shows that only one case of rape and murder was registered in the State during ethnic violence from May 3 to July 31.

The note presented by the State said a "disaggregation" of 6,523 first information reports (FIR) shows that one case of rape and murder (the victim was allegedly raped and murdered), three cases of rape or gang rape, six cases of assault on a woman with intent to outrage her modesty, and 72 cases of murder had been registered as on July 31.

Compared with this, the cases registered for arson, looting, and destruction of house property mostly numbered in four figures.

The State police registered 4,454 cases of arson (mischief by fire or explosive substance); 4,148 cases of looting (theft in dwelling house, robbery, dacoity); 4,694 cases of destruction of house property; and 584 cases of damage to public property.

Bearing the brunt: A June 21 photo of houses that were vandalised and burnt in Manipur. AP

There are, besides this, 46 cases registered for the crime of "destruction of places of religious worship".

The note, shared with the petitioners, said 100 cases were registered for causing "grievous hurt".

The note has divided the occurrence of the crimes month-wise in May, June and July.

The note said the month of May saw the highest number of deaths reported at 107. Twenty-seven people died in the violence in June, and 18 died in July. It said a total of 698 people were reported "injured" in the three months.

The note said the total number of FIRs registered originally as regular FIRs in the police station of original jurisdiction were 4,766. The number of FIRs registered originally as zero FIRs was 11,414. The total number of such zero FIRs transferred to the police station of respective jurisdiction was 10,382.

Assam Rifles unit replaced at checkpoint in the State

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Manipur government on Monday ordered the replacement of Assam Rifles from one of the check posts on the Churachandpur-Bishnupur boundary, an area that has seen frequent clashes and violence between the Kuki and Meitei communities, the latest one on August 5 when five persons were killed.

This is the same area that saw tensions escalate between personnel of the police and Central forces days ago even as Meitei groups accuse Central forces of siding with Kuki-Zomi people and the Kuki-Zomi people resist the presence of the State police, citing equally deep mistrust.

ED's seizure from crypto frauds rises to ₹1,144.5 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested 20 persons and seized or frozen criminal proceeds of ₹1,144.5 crore in connection with crypto currency frauds, the Finance Ministry informed the Lok Sabha on Monday.

Pankaj Chaudhary, Minister of State (MoS) for Finance, said that the ED is investigating several cases related to crypto currency or virtual digital currency frauds wherein a few crypto exchanges have also been found involved in money laundering.

Necessary action as per provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, has been taken and 12 Prosecution Complaints (PCs), along with two supplementary PCs have been filed before the Special Court, PMLA, Mr. Chaudhary said in response to a query from DMK MP P. Velusamy.

"Assets amounting to ₹270.18 crore have been seized under Section 37A of the FEMA and one show-cause notice to cryptocurrency exchange Zanmai Labs Pvt Ltd, known as WazirX, and its Directors under the FEMA for transactions involving cryptocurencies worth ₹2,790.74 crore has also been issued," the Minister said.

Massive crypto-based Ponzi scam exposed, say Odisha Police

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

The Economic Offence Wing (EOW) of Odisha Police on Monday claimed to have unearthed one of the largest cryptocurrency-based Ponzi schemes involving ₹1,000 crore and two lakh investors.

Gurtej Singh Sidhu

The EOW arrested Gurtej Singh Sidhu, 40, the India head of STA (Solar Techno Alliance) Crypto Token, from Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan.

Mr. Sidhu, a native of Faridkot, Punjab was produced before a local court in Sri Ganganagar which granted a seven-day transit remand. He was brought to Odisha and would be produced before the Odisha Protection of Interests of Depositors (OPID) Court, Cuttack. Launched in 2021, STA Crypto was operating through websites and social media accounts. It claimed to be a "one-stop solar technology service" that enabled users to order anything they like from the nearest farmers in shortest amount of time using blockchain technology.

However, EOW chief Jai Narayan Pankaj said, "The STA runs a huge Ponzi multi-level marketing [MLM] scheme... STA uses socially popular terms like green energy and solar technology to mask its crypto-ponzi scam." The STA website was hosted from Iceland.

"Like any other MLM scheme, members initially got some monetary benefits. Transactions [credit and debit] of more than ₹30 crore was noticed in the bank account of Nirod Das, Odisha head of STA," Mr. Pankaj informed.

He said, "There were huge cash deposits in his [Das] accounts which indicate that a lot of black money was routed or parked in this scam. All the accounts were frozen. Total money involved was estimated to be more than ₹1,000 crore."

Members were promised that they would earn $20 to $3,000 per day if they would add more members. Besides, they were promised bonus and various royalties for adding new members.

"It is estimated that more than 10,000 people from Odisha are members of this scheme. This scheme has more than two lakh members in India," said Mr. Pankaj.

Centre seeks more time to frame CAA rules

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has sought yet another extension to frame the rules of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA).

The law, which fast-tracks citizenship to non-Muslim undocumented migrants from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, has been ineffective since its passage in Parliament four years ago.

The Ministry has written to the parliament committee on subordinate legislation in the Lok Sabha, seeking time till September-end to frame the CAA rules, a government official said, adding that the committee had granted the extension. This is the eighth extension sought by the government. The last such request was made by the Ministry in January to extend the deadline till June 30.

The Act was passed on December 11, 2019, and received assent from the President on December 12 the same year. The Manual on Parliamentary Work says that if a Ministry is not able to frame the rules governing legislation within the prescribed period of six months after the law is passed, "they should seek extension of time from the Committee on Subordinate Legislation stating reasons for such extension".

32% quota for tribals in Chhattisgarh schools

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

In a move aimed at allaying the concerns of tribals in Chhattisgarh, the State Cabinet on Monday decided that the admission process in educational institutions would be completed under the "existing" system of 58% reservation (12% for SCs, 32% for STs and 14% for OBCs).

The latest decision by the Cabinet relies on a Supreme Court interim order on May 1 and a legal opinion tendered by the Advocate-General on August 3.

"Under the interim order dated May 1, passed by the Supreme Court in the SLP filed on behalf of the State government, interim relief has been provided to continue the appointment/selection procedures as per the pre-existing reservation system in the State. As per this interim order, the Cabinet has decided to conduct the admission process in the educational institutions of the State under the pre-existing reservation system," an official statement said.

Hizbul 'commander' among 2 killed: Army

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

A Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) 'divisional commander', tasked with reviving militancy in the Pir Panjal Valley, was among the two infiltrators killed close to the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch, the Army said on Monday.

The Army said the troops, along with the Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Police, engaged two infiltrating terrorists in a gunfight around 2 a.m. in the Degwar Terwan area, close to the LoC. "One terrorist fell down immediately. The second terrorist tried to run back towards the LoC, was engaged and hit and was seen falling down," Jammu-based Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Suneel Bartwal said. The Army identified the militant as Muneser Hussain of Bagyladra, Poonch. "In 1993, he went to PoK, came back in 1996 and again returned to PoK in 1998," the Army said.

Hussain is a close associate of Maulana Dawood Kashmir, a close aide Hizb supremo Syed Salahuddin.

INBRIEF

Fire breaks out at AIIMS, Delhi, no casualties reported

A fire broke out in the endoscopy unit in the old OPD wing of AIIMS, Delhi on Monday, prompting the authorities to evacuate more than 100 patients. No casualty or injury was reported in the accident, officials said. An investigation is on to ascertain the cause of the fire.

Court extends police custody of RPF constable till August 17

A Mumbai court on Monday extended the police custody of Railway Protection Force (RPF) constable Chetan Singh, who shot dead his senior colleague and three passengers on a moving train on July 31. The Government Railway Police (GRP) sought the extension of his custody for seven days, saying that they need to identify the witnesses and scan the CCTV footage.

Prominent Jammu & Kashmir leaders move to Congress

At least 21 prominent J&K leaders, including a well-known Shia face from the Valley, joined the Congress in New Delhi on Monday. Those who joined also included those who quit the Aam Aadmi Party and Ghulam Nabi Azad's Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP).

Mediation Bill passed in LS; it aims to set up a council

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Mediation Bill, 2023, which aims to cut down the time to complete the mediation proceedingsto 180 days. The Bill had been passed by the Rajya Sabha on August 1.It also sets up a Mediation Council of India which would be a neutral third party.

Agra Court stays BJP MP Ram Shankar Katheria's conviction

An Agra court on Monday stayed the conviction of BJP Lok Sabha member Ram Shankar Katheria in a 2011 assault case for beating up the employees of a power supply company. In his appeal challenging the conviction by the MP/MLA court, Mr. Katheria said there were no "witnesses" in the case except the victim and many of the witnesses had turned hostile. The court also granted him regular bail. The court order ensures that Mr. Katheria will not be disqualified from Parliament.

Rajya Sabha clears Delhi services Bill, backed by 131 MPs

Bill will ensure corruption-free, pro-people administration, says Shah; 102 MPs voted against it; move to refer it to select committee rejected

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha passed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill on Monday, four days after the Lok Sabha cleared the Bill.

According to the Centre, the Bill is for the "maintenance of democratic and administrative balance in the governance" of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

The Bill was passed with 131 members voting in favour and 102 voting against it. Apart from the NDA constituents, the Bill got the support of the BJD and YSRCP members.

The House also voted against the amendments moved by the Opposition and a proposal to send it to a select committee. Deputy Chairman Harivansh, who presided over the voting, also ordered a probe into claims by a few members that their names had been included in the proposed select committee without consent.

Replying to the debate on the Bill, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said the aim of the Bill was to ensure corruption-free, pro-people governance in Delhi. "We have not changed anything in the previous Bill brought by the Congress regime," he said, adding that Delhi cannot be ruled like a State as it is a Union Territory as per the Constitution.

"Previous Chief Ministers had no issues with the Centre. They wanted development," he said, adding that there was an attempt to spread anarchy in Delhi.

Mr. Shah said the Centre had the right to draft laws for all Union Territories.

Decks cleared: Rajya Sabha members during the debate on the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill on Monday. PTI

"So, services will also be included in this. Parliament has the right to amend and nullify the Acts passed by the Assembly," he said, and added that the Congress was opposing the Act created by it to appease the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). He said the real target of the AAP was not the BJP, but the Congress.

He also denied the charges that the Bill disrespected a Supreme Court order.

"This Bill is to protect the rights of the people of Delhi and that was why the Bill was hurried," he said. He alleged that the Delhi government removed the vigilance chief, and officers were asked to report to the Minister so that files related to the liquor scam could be destroyed.

Earlier, initiating the debate on the Bill, Congress member Abhishek Manu Singhvi said, "This Bill is completely unconstitutional. It is fundamentally anti-democratic."

Congress leader P. Chidambaram questioned the merit in the Bill's provision to constitute a three-member authority chaired by the Chief Minister.

"Is there merit when two members of the three constitute a quorum, they can even call a meeting, hold a meeting without the Chief Minister? Is there merit that even if a decision is taken unanimously, the Lieutenant-Governor can overrule it? Is there merit that the member secretary who is a principal secretary of Home will convene a meeting with or without the Chief Minister?" he asked.

Suspension of Cong. member revoked

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha on Monday revoked the suspension of Congress leader Rajni Patil, ahead of the discussion on the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill. She was suspended on February 10 for allegedly video recording and publishing visuals from the Rajya Sabha.

National Research Foundation Bill cleared

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, which proposes to establish the National Research Foundation (NRF).

The new body aims to direct research in "strategic" areas, ranging from science to humanities.

It plans to involve the private sector, which currently contributes around 36% to research and development expenditure, in a bigger way.

Amid concerns, Lok Sabha passes Digital Personal Data Protection Bill

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023 by voice vote, amid continuous slogan shouting by the Opposition. The Bill sets out requirements for companies collecting data online, with exceptions for the government and law enforcement agencies.

The Bill, now headed to the Rajya Sabha, also amends the Right to Information Act, 2005 to remove public interest exemptions on disclosing personal information.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, in his remarks, dismissed concerns around wide government exemptions, surveillance, and the amendment of the RTI Act. "If there is a natural disaster or earthquake, should we worry about ... consent notices, or focus on people's safety," he asked. The RTI Act currently allows public authorities to disclose personal information, such as officials' salaries, when it is in public interest.

The Bill would remove these caveats and completely disallow disclosing personal information.

"When the *Puttaswamy* judgment [in 2017, affirming the constitutional right to privacy] came, there were three principles, which this Bill hews to," he said. "The harmonisation that was required between the RTI Act and the Data Protection Bill has been done here."

'Too much influence'

TDP member Jayadev Galla said the government had too much influence over the proposed Data Protection Board, with decision-making powers on appointments and short terms of service.

This, he said, citing a 2019 Supreme Court judgment, may reduce the independence of the Board. Mr. Galla otherwise supported the Bill.

Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu, YSRCP MP, pointed out that the right to be forgotten was not in the Bill. "If someone participated in a political rally 20 years ago, their photos are still in the media," he said. Mr. Vaishnaw clarified that the right to erasure of data was provided for in the Bill.

BJP flays Opposition, news outlet over 'foreign links'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

On a day Congress leader Rahul Gandhi returned to the Lok Sabha, BJP member Nishikant Dubey and Union Ministers Anurag Thakur and Rajeev Chandrashekhar cited a report in *The New York Times* to accuse the Opposition of being hand in glove with a foreign government and a media outlet to peddle influence in India.

In remarks in the Lok Sabha, Mr. Dubey said the article in the newspaper detailed how the news website, NewsClick, had received ₹38 crore in funding and that money had been used to create an "anti-India" atmosphere. He also accused the Opposition of stoking that atmosphere and that it too received funding from the Chinese government.

Significantly, the Lok Sabha Secretariat first expunged some parts of Mr. Dubey's speech but they were later reinstated.

Privilege notice

The Congress took umbrage at the remarks with party leader Manickam Tagore filing a Privilege notice against Mr. Dubey. Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary raised the issue on the floor of the House. He also lodged a formal complaint with Speaker Om Birla, asking his office to investigate how a member was allowed to make libellous charges without giving advance notice.

Outside Parliament, Mr. Thakur and Mr. Chandrashekhar, however, did not mince words in drawing connections between Chinese firms and the funding of NewsClick and the support the website got from the Opposition parties when it was raided by the Enforcement Directorate in 2021, describing the link as an "anti-India umbilical cord".

Funding of organisation

"Chinese goods are being sold in Rahul*ji*'s fake '*Mohabbat ki Dukan*'," Mr. Thakur said.

"If you see the funding network of NewsClick, it was funded by a foreigner Neville Roy Singham and he gets funds from China. This Neville Roy Singham has direct contact with the propaganda arm of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese media company Maku Group," he said.

NewsClick, released an "initial statement" on the issue, terming itself an "independent news organisation."

"The issues to which your questions relate are *sub judice* before courts in India. We respect the sanctity of the legal process and do not intend to indulge in a media trial. That said, we wish to confirm that the allegations being made against us by certain political actors and sections of the media are misleading, unfounded and without basis in fact or law," it said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA email : serwsbd2003@yahoo.com
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA.

No : 3171 / **1st Corrigendum** Date: 05/08/2023

In continuation to this office Bid Identification No- CCERWCSBD Online-08/2023-24 invited vide this office Notice No. 2642 Dtd. 06.07.2023 partial modification of TCN has been made as follows:-

Sl No.	Item	Time Schedule as per original TCN	Time Schedule as per Corrigendum notice
1	Availability of Tender online for bidding	20.07.2023 at 11.00 AM to 10.08.2023 up to 5.30 Pm	Extended up to 5.30 PM of 21.08.2023
2	Date and Time of seeking tender clarification if any	09.08.2023 up to 1.00 PM	19.08.2023 up to 1.00 PM
3	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	11.08.2022 at 11.00 AM	22.08.2023 at 11.00 AM
4	Date & Time of opening of tender (Price Bid)	To be intimated separately	To be intimated separately

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

O-558: **Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda.**
OIPR-25182/11/0016/2324

NOTICE FOR EXTENSION

PROCUREMENT OF IT EQUIPMENT UNDER NCB NO: HPKVN/COE/IT/01 AND RELATED ITEMS FOR CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (COE), WAKNAGHAT IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

Date: 28.07.2023 HPKVN/1(563)/2020- Procurement CoE Vol III

THE LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR PROCUREMENT OF IT EQUIPMENT UNDER NCB NO: HPKVN/COE/IT/01 AND RELATED ITEMS FOR CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (COE), WAKNAGHAT IN HIMACHAL PRADESH FOR 28-07-2023 vide Advertisement Notice **HPKVN/1(563)/20**20-PROCUREMENT COE VOL III dated 22-06-2023 is further extended up to **25-08-2023**.

*For more details visit our website
www.hpkvn.in/notification/tenderandcirculars

Proc-2949 ***Managing Director, HPKVN***

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
No.EM/PED-25/2023
No.EM/PED/TECH-33/2022/283
Date : 04/08/2023

Name of the work : "Relocation of 33/11 Kv Harbour Control Room. Estimated Cost : Rs.10,78,16,488/-. Last Date & time of submission of bid : dt.24/08/2023 up to 18:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.

Executive Engineer (E), PED - II
PPA/PR/38/2023-24, Dt.07/08/23

सेन्टर फॉर मेटिरियल्स फॉर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स टेक्नोलाजी (सी-मेट)
CENTRE FOR MATERIALS FOR ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY (C-MET)
(Scientific Society, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India)
IDA PHASE – III, CHERLAPALLY, HCL (PO), HYDERABAD – 500 051
Phone: +91-40-27265587, 27267006, 27261658, Web: www.cmet.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited under **Two Bid System** (Part I - TECHNO-COMMERCIAL BID & Part II – PRICE BID) at C-MET, Hyderabad for the following scientific item(s)/equipment:

Sl. No.	Name of the Item	Tender Reference No.
1	High Resolution Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometer (HR-GDMS)	HD/PUR/CC-ADM/GDMS/251/2022-23

Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: 04.09.2023 up to 17:00 Hrs IST

For Details and Tender Document, please visit our website http://www.cmet.gov.in & also CPPP portal.

Sd/-
DIRECTOR

MALABAR CANCER CENTRE
(POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY SCIENCES & RESEARCH)
NABH Accredited (an autonomous centre under Government of Kerala
Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala - 670 103,Phone :+91 490 2399244/257, 2355881
Fax: 91 490 2355880,Email: mcctly@gmail.com, Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in
MCC/295/2023-P2-GAD 04/08/2023

GLOBAL e-TENDER NOTICE (Re-tender)

Tenders (Two bid system) are invited from established manufacturers/ authorized suppliers through www.etenders.kerala.gov.in to supply ROBOTIC SURGERY SYSTEM WITH ACCESSORIES in Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery (Tender ID: 2023_MCC_581604_2). For details contact our Purchase Division.
For details visit: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in or contact Purchase Division.
Sd/- Director

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, नगर वृत, जोधपुर
क्रमांक: 1548 दिनांक: 26.07.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या : 4 वर्ष 2023-2024
NIB No. PWD2324A1945
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से भवन निर्माण कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ईटेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2324WSOB09120
(विनीत गुप्ता)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. नगर वृत जोधपुर
DIPR/C/11155/23/A/E

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 100/2023-24/PHC/KNR(Re- Tender), Jal Jeevan Mission - Kasaragod District - Kodom Belure Panchayat - WSS to Kodom Belur and adjoining villages - phase II (part - III) - Construction of GLSR, OHSR, Gravity main, Pumping main, laying distribution system and providing balance FHTCs, **EMD :** Rs. 500000, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 19518, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 18-08-2023 03:00:pm, **Phone :** 04972705902.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-972-2023-24 **PH Circle, Kannur**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.49, 4th & 5th Floor, East Wing, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560001.
Phone No. 080-22265383 Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND/DPR-01/142/2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover system are invited tender from reputed consultants/firms having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work for project as per the schedule given below for the following work.

Name of the work: Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) Economic Analysis, Design, Estimate and Feasibility Report for Implementation of water supply scheme from Vanivilas Sagar to the Metikurke Industrial Area, Chitradurga District.

Last date for submission of bids is: 22.08.2023 upto 04:00 pm

Applicants may download bidding documents from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal, **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1
K.I.A.D.B
DIPR/CP/834/AKAR/2023-24

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
6th Floor, 2nd Gate, M.S. Building, Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001
No. ED 23 UDV 2023[P1] Date: 05.08.2023
Selection of Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore University, Mangalore

Invitation of Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Mangalore University, Mangalore, as per Section 14(2) of Karnataka State Universities Act,2000.

The Higher Education Department, Government of Karnataka invites Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Mangalore University, Mangalore. The Application should be submitted within Twenty days (20) from the date of this notification. The detailed application form and further details are available on Higher Education Department website **https://hed.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Deputy Secretary
DIPR/CP/JA/809/2023-24 **(Universities & Co-ordination)**

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813;
website: www.pspcl.in, Contact Number.: (9646118754)

Tender Inquiry No. 305/HPs/ED-I/S-417 Dated: 04/08/2023

Dy. CE/ Hydel Project, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-Tender to conduct RLA studies, detailed feasibilities studies and preparation of Detailed Project Report along with specifications:-
To conduct RLA studies, detailed feasibilities studies and preparation of Detailed Project Report along with specifications:-
a) for up-rating of 4x15 MW & 1x50 MW machines,
b) for rehabilitation works of Civil Structure at main power house building at Shanan, valve house, penstock area, reserviour area at barot
c) for rehabilitation & uprating of House Generator Set of 648 KVA,
d) for setting up a mini / small hydel power plant at existing head works at Barot, PSPCL, Joginder Nagar (H.P.).
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 09.08.2023 onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C-520/23 76155/12/2014/2023/26551

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division West Zone, Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 20.
No: EE/PW/TEND/02/2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(SERVICE TENDER)
(Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer (Project West) BBMP, Bengaluru invites Bids on Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, for the following Services from Reputed Service Provider for the below work through e-procurement portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Name of the Work	Estimate Amount (in ₹.)	EMD Amount (in ₹.)
Supplying Housekeeping Staff to the Hospitals and Maternity Homes Working in Jurisdiction of West Zone, BBMP for 12 Months.	**2,87,64,825/-**	**4,32,000/-**

Calendar of Events

1.	Date of Commencement of Down-load of Document from eprocurement website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in	From 10.08.2023 Onwards
2.	Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting:	28.08.2023 at 4:00 pm
3.	Last Date and Time for Uploading Tenders in e-procurement portal	22.09.2023 upto 4:00 pm
4.	Date and Time of Opening of Tenders in the e-portal	25.09.2023 at 4:30 pm (If Possible)

This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: www.bbmp.gov.in. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project-West

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
6th Floor, 2nd Gate, M.S. Building, Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001
No. ED/244/URC/2023 Date: 07.08.2023
Selection of Vice-Chancellor of Rani Channamma University, Belagavi

Invitation of Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi, as per Section 14(2) of Karnataka State Universities Act,2000.

The Higher Education Department, Government of Karnataka invites Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi. The Application should be submitted within Twenty days (20) from the date of this notification. The detailed application form and further details are available on Higher Education Department website **https://hed.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Deputy Secretary
DIPR/CP/JA/810/2023-24 **(Universities & Co-ordination)**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING BID

Bids for "Construction of Transmission Elements 1 X 500 MVA, 400/220kV Transformer along with associated 400kV & 220 kV Bays at 400kV Substation Ramgarh , 1 X 500 MVA, 400/220kV Transformer along with associated 400kV & 220 kV Bays at 400kV Substation Jodhpur (Surpura) ,1 X 500 MVA, 400/220kV Transformer along with associated 400kV & 220kV Bays & 1 Nos. 400 kV Line Bay Work at 400kV Substation Bhadla including supply of all Equipment's/Materials, Erection (Including Civil Works), Testing & Commissioning against specification No.RVPN/EHV/SPV/TN-9 [UBN No. VPN2324WLOB01133]", "Construction of 132/33 kV, 2x50 MVA GIS Substation at SMS, Hospital (Distt.-Jaipur) alongwith associated transmission lines & terminal bays including survey, supply of all equipment's/materials, erection (including civil works), testing & commissioning, against specification no. RVPN/EHV/A & SP/TN-104 (UBN: VPN2324WLOB01134) & "Construction of 132/33 kV, 2x50 MVA Substation (132kV Switchyard with GIS technology & 33kV Switchyard with AIS technology) at Lalsagar (Distt.- Jodhpur) alongwith associated transmission lines including survey, supply of all equipment's/materials, erection (including civil works), testing & commissioning" against specification no. RVPN/EHV/A & SP/TN-108 (UBN: VPN2324WLOB01135) are invited from interested bidders up to 04:00PM, 06.09.2023. For other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** of the state & **https://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn** departmental website.

RRVPN/TR-5975/2023 **Superintending Engineer**
Raj.Samwad/C/23/7131 **(Automation, N/M & SP), Jaipur**

INBRIEF

India has 482 recognised medical colleges: Ministry

There are a total of 482 recognised medical colleges in the country with Karnataka (56), Maharashtra (49), and Tamil Nadu (48) having the most number of them, according to information released by the National Medical Commission (NMC), the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Bharati Pravin Pawar, informed the Lok Sabha. Presenting the information in the Lower House during the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament, she said that the NMC has also notified the minimum requirements for the annual MBBS Admission Regulations, 2020.

Lok Sabha passes Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 2023

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which was introduced on August 3. The Bill amends the Pharmacy Act, 1948 which regulates the practice and profession of pharmacy. Registration under the Pharmacy Act, 1948 is mandatory to practise pharmacy in India. The Bill looks at the insertion of new Section 32C, which provides a special provision relating to persons registered or qualified under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act, 2011. Speaking about the Bill, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said that India took drug security very seriously.

International cheetah experts will be consulted, govt. tells SC

Court disposes of applications by conservationists, saying the project is better left to the wisdom of experts in the field rather than the judiciary; it had earlier urged the government to move the big cats to a more conducive environment

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre to address the "public concern" about the deaths of six of the 20 adult cheetahs, translocated from South Africa and Namibia, at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

Appearing before a three-judge Bench headed by Justice B.R. Gavai, Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati said the deaths, though unfortunate, were expected.

Ms. Bhati said an 11-member expert committee had been formed by the Centre to monitor the health of the surviving cheetahs. The law officer assured the court that the government would take inputs from international cheetah conservationists.

'Winter coats'

Asked about the reasons for the deaths, Ms. Bhati blamed the summer. She said the cheetahs had grown "winter coats" as the season was winter in the African continent. Ms. Bhati said the winter coats had led to infection.

Alarming state: Fourteen adults of the 20 translocated cheetahs and one Indian-born cub survive as of date. PTI

"Was that not expected? What steps did you take when you brought them here? What was your vision when translocating them," Justice P.S. Narasimha asked.

Ms. Bhati said the surviving animals had been treated and were under close monitoring.

"So the sum and substance of what you are saying is that everything is well," Justice Narasimha asked.

The court was hearing an application by conservationists who complained that the Centre was not taking effective steps to prevent cheetah deaths at the Kuno National Park. They alleged that the government had stopped consulting an international task force set up to ease the acclimatisation of the big cats.

The court finally disposed of the application, saying it found no reason to disbelieve the Centre's statements about its efforts to make the cheetah project a success. The court said the project was better left to the wisdom of experts in the field rather than the judiciary.

A recent affidavit by the Environment Ministry and the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had informed the Supreme Court that a provisional diagnosis of the cheetahs at Kuno National Park "points towards natural causes".

The government and the NTCA had said the mortalities, though troubling and in need of redressal and curtailment, were not unduly alarming.

The government said the big cats had low survival rates – 50%, even in adults. In an "introduced population" of cheetahs, cubs have about 10% survival.

'Severely dehydrated'

Two batches of cheetahs, eight from Namibia and 12 from South Africa, were translocated to the Kuno National Park in September 2022 and February 2023.

Fourteen adult cheetahs and one Indian-born cub survive as of date. Six adult cheetahs and three cubs were reported dead in Kuno. The cubs were found "severely dehydrated and underweight".

The Supreme Court, on July 20, had remarked that the deaths of 40% of the 20 cheetahs did not present a good picture.

The affidavit had, however, said that steps had been taken to ensure the well-being of the surviving cheetahs, including their capture and administration of critical medical examination. Thirteen adults and one cub have already been captured and treated.

Under an action plan, the government and the NTCA intend to introduce 12-14 cheetahs annually from African countries for the next five years. This would depend on the availability of the big cats from these countries as well as the status of habitat, prey-base and protection mechanism on the ground.

The court had earlier urged the government to move the big cats to a more conducive environment, if required, and not make it a "prestige issue".

Idea of Basic Structure has debatable basis: Gogoi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi, a nominated member in Rajya Sabha, said on Monday that the Basic Structure of the Constitution has a "debatable jurisprudential basis".

This was Mr. Gogoi's maiden speech in the Upper House. He was participating in the discussion on the Delhi services Bill.

Mr. Gogoi said, "The law may not be to be my liking but that does not make it arbitrary. There is a book by [former Solicitor-General] Andhyarujina on the *Kesavananda Bharati* case. Having read the book, my view is that the doctrine of the Basic Structure of the Constitution has a debatable, very debatable jurisprudential basis. I would not say anything more than this," the former CJI said.

Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal asked if the government endorsed the former CJI's views. "Is this the BJP's trick to begin the full-fledged dismantling of the Constitution of India?," Mr. Venugopal posted on X (formerly twitter).

Exercise Malabar to be held from August 11-21

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The 31st edition of the Malabar multilateral exercise comprising India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. will be held off Sydney from August 11 to 21, as Australia hosts the war games for the first time this year. Australia has also invited India for the Sea Power conference that it is hosting from November 7 to 9, and defence sources said India was likely to attend it.

The exercise will take place in a large designated area, the East Australian exercise area, spread over a couple of hundred miles off Sydney and will have a harbour and sea phase.

Exercise Malabar will be followed by AUSINDEX, the India-Australia bilateral naval exercise. In the past, officials have termed Malabar as the most complicated naval exercise that India does.

Previous governments did not focus on building infrastructure at LAC: Jaishankar

Suhasini Haidar
Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Blaming previous Indian governments for "neglecting" the Line of Actual Control (LAC), External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Monday said he had seen first-hand the extent of Chinese infrastructure development from the 2000s on its side of the LAC when he was India's Ambassador to China (2009-2013).

Mr. Jaishankar presented the government's recent initiatives in infrastructure-building along the LAC as achievements but also pointed out that one of India's most ambitious infrastructure projects with Southeast Asia was facing "big challenges" because of the breakdown in Myanmar's internal security system.

"The problem is that previous governments did not focus on building infrastructure because their thinking was that if they left border areas undeveloped, then it would not facilitate [Chinese troops] to cross over more easily," he said, in response to a question. "But this was the wrong thinking, because those who wanted to come, came in any way."

He later clarified that he was referring to Chinese incursions "pre-2014", and not the more recent ones in 2014 in Demchok as well as the 2020 stand-off in various sectors of the LAC.

Meeting a select gathering of media professionals for a "breakfast meeting", Mr. Jaishankar highlighted the Trilateral Highway that is aimed at connecting India, Myanmar and Thailand and said parts of the mega project were stuck because of the breakdown in the security structure in Myanmar, where the military junta took charge in February 1, 2021.

S. Jaishankar

He further highlighted border infrastructure initiatives have brought major improvements in India's relation with neighbours such as Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

Turmoil in Myanmar

"Because of security situation in Myanmar, completing the Trilateral Highway is facing big challenges. We have done half the work and finding it difficult to complete the other half," Mr. Jaishankar said about the four-lane road link that was envisioned to deepen ties between India and the Southeast Asian region.

He explained that the building of the connecting road between Mizoram and the port of Sittwe in Rakhine province and the construction of 69 bridges were not moving forward because of the situation in Myanmar.

Mr. Jaishankar's remarks about the security situation in Myanmar were aimed at the volatile condition in the Chin and Sagaing regions of Myanmar where several armed resistance groups have declared war against the military junta of Nay Pyi Taw creating hurdles in the path of Indian infrastructure projects.

The senior Cabinet Minister said "easier movement" and connectivity between Nepal and India were creating bigger business opportunities in States such as Uttar Pradesh. "There is a sea change because of infrastructure development on our side with Nepal that will be benefiting all the areas from Uttarakhand to West Bengal."

The goal of the construction, he said, was aimed at facilitating greater people-to-people contact. He highlighted the Raxaul-Kathmandu rail link project and said it was in the stage of "final location survey". "Once completed, it will connect Kathmandu to India by train," Mr. Jaishankar said.

Mr. Jaishankar said that similar improvements on India's border with Bhutan was aimed at easier land link that would enhance Bhutan's ability to attract more tourists. "We are in talks on the rail link between Bhutan and Assam. Bhutan is very keen to open more points for tourists and it is very good for Assam." The planned rail connection is the first rail project of Bhutan and is expected to be completed in the next three years.

Indian-made syrup found contaminated in Iraq, alerts WHO

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A substandard batch of the syrup has been termed unsafe.

One batch of COLD OUT – paracetamol and chlorpheniramine combination syrups used to treat symptoms of the common cold and allergy – manufactured by Fourrts India for Dabilife Pharma Private Limited has been reported to the World Health Organization (by a third party) as substandard or contaminated.

In a medical product alert issued on Monday, the WHO said: "COLD OUT syrup (Paracetamol and Chlorpheniramine Maleate) identified in the Republic of Iraq and reported to the WHO on 10 July 2023 by a third-party sample was found contaminated."

"A sample of the COLD OUT Syrup was obtained from one location in Iraq and submitted for laboratory analysis. The sample was found to contain unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol (0.25%) and ethylene glycol (2.1%) as contaminants. The acceptable safety limit for both ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol is no more than 0.10%," it said, adding that to date, the stated manufacturer and the marketer have not provided guarantees to WHO on the safety and quality of the product.

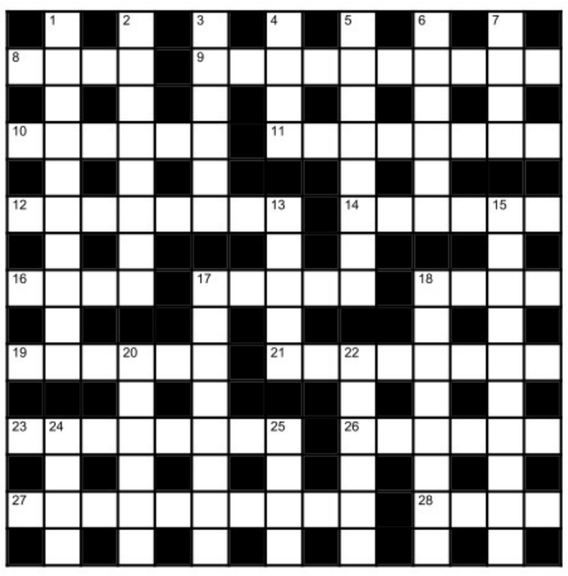
The substandard batch of the product referenced in this alert is unsafe and its use may result in serious injury or death.

TH CROSSWORD + 13938

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 At heart, noblemen have no time for a month of fasting (4)
9 Average train speed is wrong (10)
10 Trim girl starts to like Indian kid brought up in the jungle (6)
11 Rips and stares (5,3)
12 Sorts rags near building (8)
14 South east gets identical oilseed (6)
16 Neglect love at premier technological institute (4)
17 Foreigner's rule (5)
18 Col.'s permission to go out of camp (4)
19 Disclose about meat (6)
21 Carrying bread, stumped editor walked slowly (8)
23 Deliver diamonds in German city (8)
26 Bonsai cultivated in European region (6)
27 Wrongly trains gentleman to make chemical which causes skin to tighten (10)
28 Ignoring beginning of activity, amuse flying birds (4)

Down

1 A small quantity containing powdered ore included in a postal item (10)
2 Name insect that is behind animal that is standing (8)
3 Seasonal rivulet? (6)
4 Irritated, tired, not having a bit of rest — what does a newspaper boss do? (4)
5 Killer from NASA's ISS is agitated (8)
6 Holds top of pole planted in lawn, perhaps (6)
7 Young animal caught by Alfred is colourless (4)
13 Moves prisons (5)
15 Setter's street has serious trouble after Pole leaves. Strange! (10)
17 Apt student given shelter by veteran at sea (8)
18 Rubs hip and soles in a frenzy (8)
20 Tolerate English leader under transfer (6)
22 Discount on racket with bridge player (6)
24 Appears in professional soccer too (4)
25 Damaged foredeck in absence of dock in shoal (4)

SUDOKU

						3	8	
	9			8	6	4		
4		1						
			8		1			7
8	7		5	6	3		4	1
5			4		7			
						7		2
		9	2	3			5	
	2	8						

No.SS5882 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

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R	A	S	P		C	I	V	E	T		E	R	O	S
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	S		Y		S		N		S		M		E	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	9	4	6	3	8	7	5	2
7	8	5	2	4	1	9	3	6
2	3	6	7	5	9	4	1	8
8	4	7	9	1	5	6	2	3
5	6	1	3	2	7	8	9	4
3	2	9	8	6	4	5	7	1
9	1	3	4	7	6	2	8	5
6	5	8	1	9	2	3	4	7
4	7	2	5	8	3	1	6	9

FAITH

Five Krishna kshetras

The first part of the 10th mantra of *Apratiratha sukta* of Taittiriya Samhita can be specifically related to the divya desam known as Thirukkannapuram, said V.S. Karunakaracharia in a discourse. The word 'dhvaja' used in the mantra means flag, but Hemachandra's dictionary gives the meaning – abode in the east. Thirukannapuram is called *Keezhai veedu* (divine kshetra in the east). Vibhishana wanted to see Lord Ranganatha's (Rangendra's) majestic walk. Ranganatha asked him to go to Thirukannapuram and watch Him walk there. On every amavasya, the utsava deity of Thirukkannapuram moves in a southern direction so that Vibhishana can see Him from Lanka. Dhvaja can also be taken to refer to all divya desams on the east coast of Tamil Nadu.

The Vedic mantra uses the word 'ishava.' Ishu means five. But the mantra has the plural 'ishava', whereas the word ishu is singular. So where does five fit in? Thirukkovalur, Kapisthalam, Kannapuram, Kannamangai and Kannangkudi are Krishna kshetras. So the mantra can be interpreted as referring to this set of five kshetras. There are other classifications too, as for instance five Krishnaranya kshetras along the banks of the Cauvery – Therazhundur, Kapisthalam, Kannapuram, Kannamangai and Kannangkudi.

RAMALLAH

Palestinian teenager shot by Israeli guard in West Bank dies

AP

A Palestinian teenager died on Monday days after being shot by an Israeli settlement guard in the occupied West Bank. The Palestinian Health Ministry said 17-year-old Ramzi Fathi Hamed "died after being shot by the occupation (Israel) a few days ago in Silwad", a Palestinian village northeast of Ramallah. AFP

MANILA

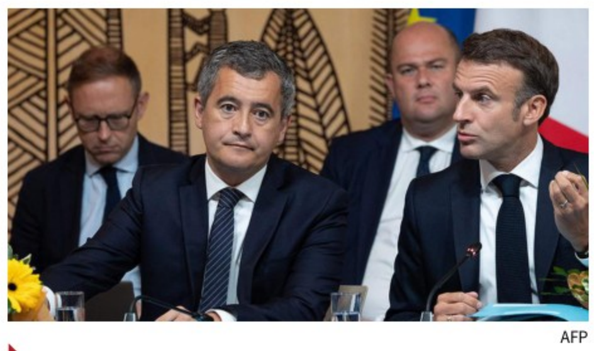
Philippines summons China envoy for using water cannon on boats

AFP

Manila summoned Beijing's envoy after the China Coast Guard blocked and used water cannon on Philippine vessels in the disputed South China Sea. The incident happened on Saturday as the Philippine Coast Guard escorted charter boats carrying food, water, fuel and other supplies to the Spratly Islands. AFP

PARIS

France moves to ban far-right party Civitas for 'anti-Semitism'



AFP

France's interior minister said he had ordered to dissolve Civitas, a far-right party of mostly ultra-traditional Catholics, because of its anti-Semitism. Gerald Darmanin asked his Ministry "to proceed to the dissolution" of the party, "firmly" condemning anti-Semitic remarks made during its summer seminar last month. AFP

ABUJA

West African bloc ECOWAS to meet on Niger coup on Thursday

AFP

West African bloc ECOWAS said its leaders would meet on Thursday on the crisis in Niger, whose military rulers have defied its ultimatum to cede power or face possible military action. The summit is to be held in Abuja, Nigeria, whose president Bola Tinubu is the current ECOWAS chairman. AFP

Nine killed in a pair of bombings in Pakistan

Associated Press
QUETTA

A roadside bomb struck a vehicle carrying a local politician and his friends in southwestern Pakistan on Monday, killing him and six others, the police said. In a separate bombing, two persons were killed in the northwest.

The attack that killed seven happened in Kech, a town in Balochistan province. The slain politician, Ishaq Yaqub, was from the Balochistan Awami Party.

The bombing in Balochistan happened hours after a suicide bomber apparently detonated his explosives-laden vehicle prematurely in a former stronghold of the Pakistani Taliban, killing a married couple in a nearby car, officials said.

'Nawaz will be next Pak. PM if PML-N returns to power'

PM Shehbaz Sharif says Pakistan saw 'phenomenal progress' under his his elder brother's rule during 2013-17 and improved ties with other countries; elections expected to be held in Nov.

Press Trust of India
LAHORE

Nawaz Sharif will be Pakistan's next Premier if the PML-N returns to power after the country goes to polls in November, his brother and the country's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said. Mr. Shehbaz's remarks came at a public meeting in Kasur, some 50km from Lahore, on Sunday evening.

Homecoming: Nawaz Sharif has been living in a self-imposed exile in the U.K. since 2019 after being convicted for corruption. AP

Mr. Nawaz, 73, has been living in self-imposed exile in the U.K. since November 2019. He was convicted in corruption cases in 2018. He was serving a seven-year imprisonment at Lahore's Kot Lakhpat jail before he was allowed to proceed to London on "medical grounds".

"Nawaz Sharif will be the next Prime Minister of Pakistan. He will serve the people as he had done before," Mr. Shehbaz, 71, said.

He said Pakistan saw "phenomenal progress" in Mr. Nawaz's last tenure during 2013-17 and improved relations with countries like China, Saudi Arabia and Turkey while Imran Khan had damaged Pakistan's relations with these countries.

Mr. Shehbaz said he would dissolve the Assemblies on August 9, and Pakistan elect the next government through a vote in November 2023. The Election Commission has not yet announced the date of the general election.

"Nawaz Sharif will return to the country once he gets relief in cases he is convicted of," a senior leader of the Punjab chapter of PML-N said on Monday.

He said no assurances had been given to the Sharifs on this by the establishment as yet, and the situation would be clear once the caretaker set-up is installed.

Cambodian King appoints Hun Sen's son as new PM

Agence France-Presse
PHNOM PENH

Cambodia's King appointed Hun Sen's son the country's new leader on Monday, beginning a handover of power that ends nearly four decades of rule, but the outgoing Premier promised this was "not the end" of his political career.

King Norodom Sihamoni issued a royal decree appointing Hun Manet as Prime Minister, after Mr. Hun Sen had announced last month that he was stepping down and handing power to his eldest son.

Mr. Hun Sen – one of the world's longest-serving leaders – made the announcement days after a landslide victory in July polls that were widely decried as a sham, after main challenger the Candlelight Party was barred from participating.

Hun Manet

To assume the post, 45-year-old Mr. Hun Manet and his Cabinet must win an August 22 vote in Parliament, where his father's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) has all but five of 125 seats in the lower house.

Mr. Hun Sen has for years pursued a ruthless campaign against any Opposition, banning parties and forcing adversaries to flee abroad.

While insisting he would not interfere with his son's rule, Mr. Hun Sen promised on Monday he would continue to play a prominent political role.

'Not the end'

"It is not the end yet," he said, adding he would continue serving in other positions until at least 2033.

After stepping down, Mr. Hun Sen has said he will become President of the Senate early next year, making him acting head of state when the King is overseas.

In a letter to the King, Mr. Hun Manet thanked him for "the great chance to serve the nation".

Longtime Opposition politician Sam Rainsy, self-exiled in France, said any hopes for more freedom under Mr. Hun Manet or that he might distance the country from major benefactor China were misguided.

Saudi Arabia talks on Ukraine helped build consensus, says China

Reuters
BEIJING

China's Foreign Ministry said on Monday that international talks in Saudi Arabia at the weekend on finding a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis had helped "to consolidate international consensus".

More than 40 countries, including China, India, the United States, and European countries, but not Russia, took part in the Jeddah talks that ended on Sunday.

China sent its Special Envoy for Eurasian Affairs and former Ambassador to Russia, Li Hui, to find common ground for an even-

Li Hui

tual political settlement of the conflict.

China will continue to strengthen dialogue based on its 12-point peace proposal, and "accumulate mutual trust", a statement from the Foreign Ministry said, without going into specific details.

Pheu Thai announces fresh coalition with govt.-aligned party

Agence France-Presse
BANGKOK

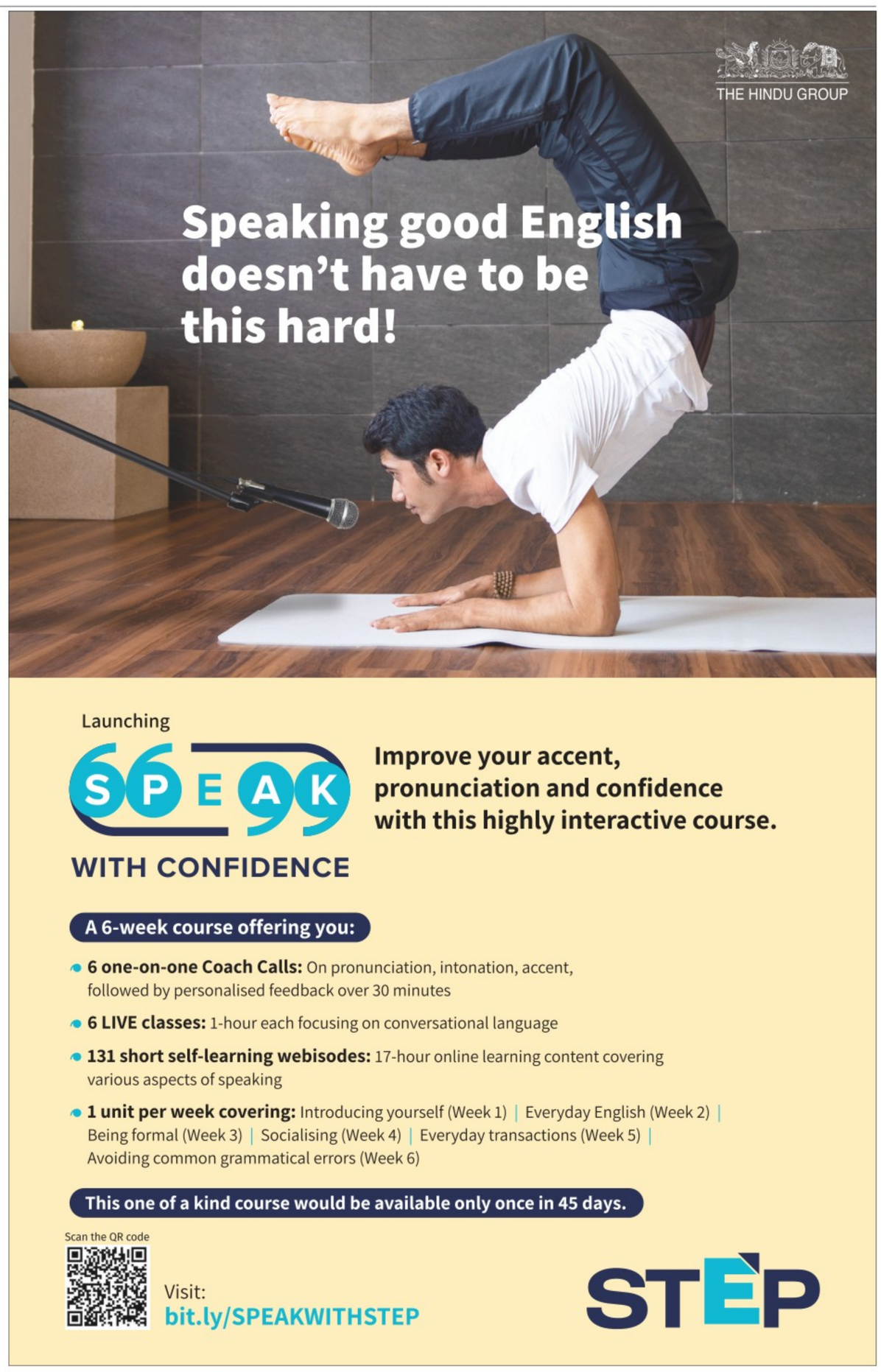
The kingdom was unable to form a government after the reformist MFP fell short of a majority

Thailand's election runners-up announced a fresh coalition with a government-aligned party on Monday as lawmakers attempt to overcome resistance from military and pro-royalist senators to break a political deadlock.

The kingdom has been unable to form a government after the reformist Move Forward Party (MFP) fell short of a majority, despite winning the most seats in May's polls, and was later excluded from a progressive coalition.

The party's closest rival, Pheu Thai, announced the new partnership on Monday with another party, Bhumjaithai, bringing together a total of 212 seats in Thai Parliament's lower house.

A previous eight-party coalition headed by MFP failed to get leader Pita Limjaroenrat elected Prime minister after he was blocked by junta-appointed senators opposed to his determination over the lese-majeste laws.



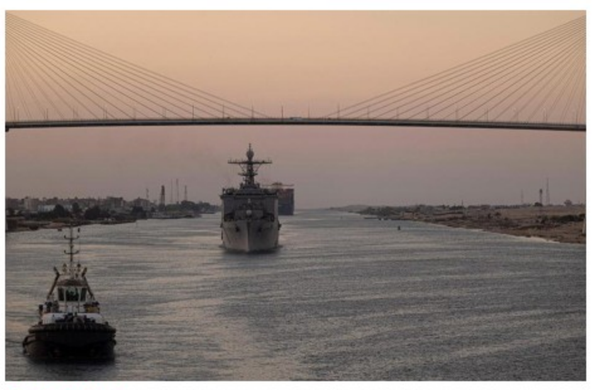
Thousands of U.S. sailors, Marines reach Red Sea after Iran tensions

Agence France-Presse
DUBAI

More than 3,000 U.S. military personnel have arrived in the Red Sea aboard two warships, part of a beefed-up response from Washington after tanker seizures by Iran, the U.S. Navy said on Monday.

The deployment adds to a growing U.S. military buildup in tense Gulf waterways vital to the global oil trade and led Tehran on Monday to accuse the U.S. of inflaming regional instability.

The U.S. military says Iran has either seized or attempted to take control of nearly 20 internationally flagged ships in the region



Flash point: The U.S. says Iran has either seized or attempted to take control of 20 ships in the region over the past two years. AFP

over the past two years.

The U.S. sailors and Marines entered the Red Sea on Sunday after transiting through the Suez Canal in a pre-announced deployment, the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet said in a statement.

They arrived on board the *USS Bataan* and *USS Carter Hall* warships, providing "greater flexibility and maritime capability" to the Fifth Fleet, the statement from the Bahrain-based command added.

The deployment adds to efforts "to deter destabilising activity and de-escalate regional tensions caused by Iran's harassment and seizures of merchant vessels," Fifth Fleet spokesman Commander Tim Hawkins told AFP.

In a Monday press conference, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani said U.S. deployments are only serving Washington's interests.

"The U.S. government's military presence in the region has never created security. Their interests in this region have always compelled them to fuel instability and insecurity."

INBRIEF

MRF unveils Steel Brace radial tyres for high-end bikes

MRF Ltd. has announced the introduction of Steel Brace radial tyres for high-performance motorcycles. The Steel Brace radials are highly specialised tyres made specifically for high-end motorcycles that demand extraordinary performance under extreme conditions, the tyre maker said. The tyres offer optimised, wider contact patch for cornering. The advanced tread pattern provides better wet grip and uniform tyre wear, MRF added.

'Banks wrote off in 9 years, ₹14.56 lakh cr. of bad loans'

Banks have written off ₹14.56 lakh crore in bad loans in the last nine financial years starting 2014-15, Parliament was informed. Out of ₹14,56,226 crore, written-off loans of large industries and services stood at ₹7,40,968 crore. Scheduled Commercial Banks recovered ₹2,04,668 crore in written-off loans, including corporate loans, since April 2014 and up to March 2023, Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said in a reply to Lok Sabha. PTI

Waaree Energies raises ₹1,000 cr. in equity funding

Waaree Energies Ltd. (WEL), which is into solar energy, said it has raised an equity funding of approximately ₹1,000 crore via second round led by ValueQuest. The company had earlier raised ₹1,040 crore in the primary round from a clutch of investors, including family offices and HNIs. "The current round of funding will be utilised for another 6 GW of capacity expansion, in addition to the existing capacity of 12 GW," the company said in a statement.

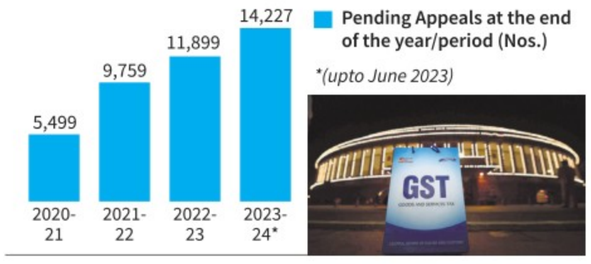
Pending GST appeals surged in Q1

The number of pending appeals rose sharply to over 14,000 by June 30, 2023; Experts suggest the rise may be linked to the GST compliance drive since May, and taxpayers opting to wait for the tribunals to kick off rather than approach the courts

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the much-awaited formation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Appellate Tribunals, the number of pending appeals from taxpayers over central GST levies has risen sharply to more than 14,000 by the end of the first quarter of 2023-24, 20% higher than such pending cases as on March 31 this year.

The GST Council had cleared the way for the setting up of GST Appellate Tribunals across the country at its meeting on July 11, and the government had indicated it would aim to make the first set of tribunals operational sometime between November 2023 and January 2024.



Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said the plan is to establish the State benches in a phased manner based on the request of States. Mr. Chaudhary also shared details of the number of GST appeals related to central GST authorities that are pending at various levels.

As per the data, these pending appeals stood at 5,499 cases as of March 31, 2021, which rose to 9,759 by the end of the next fiscal. As of June 30 this year, the total number of appeals from tax payers pending with central GST authorities stood at 14,227.

Tax experts suggested this rise may be linked to the two-month GST compliance drive undertaken by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs since May, and taxpayers opting to wait for the tribunals to kick off rather than approach the High Courts.

"As GST audits and investigations are happening in full flow, there is a rise in the number of appeals as well," explained Abhishek A Rastogi, founder of Rastogi Chambers. "Further, the High Courts in several cases have ruled that the appeals before the tribunal can be filed within three months of formation of the tribunal. Hence, taxpayers have opted to go through the appellate route rather than the writ jurisdiction route," he added.

Veg thali's cost rose 28% in July: CRISIL

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The cost of vegetarian and non-vegetarian thalis surged month-on-month by 28% and 11%, respectively, in July, propelled by a more than tripling in tomato prices from June, and sequential increases of 69% in the cost of chili and 16% in the case of cumin and onion prices.

"The cost of a thali rose sequentially for the third month in a row... and also inched up on-year for the first time this fiscal, mainly due to soaring tomato prices," CRISIL Market Intelligence & Analytics said in a report. The firm calculates the average cost of preparing a thali at home based on input prices from across the country.

The cost of a non-vegetarian thali, at ₹66.8 in July, rose at a slower pace as the price of broilers likely fell 3-5% on-month, while a 2% decline in vegetable oil prices provided some respite for both thalis' costs.

Equity issues slid 32% in FY23 on volatility: SEBI

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Fund raising through equity issues in FY23 slid 32% from FY22, according to the annual report of the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

"Volatility in the secondary market, uncertain macroeconomic environment and relatively subdued performance of many listed equities slowed down resource mobilisation through public issue of equites," SEBI said.

However, there was a growth of 27% in fund mobilisation via debt.

India Cements logs Q1 loss of ₹75 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The India Cements Ltd., (ICL), which reported a standalone loss of ₹75 crore for the June quarter, is looking at reducing variable costs, monetisation of non-core assets and refurbishing its old plant.

The firm had posted a net profit of ₹76 crore in the year-earlier period. ICL attributed Q1FY24 loss to reduction in selling price, loss of volume and high variable cost.

"The selling price of cement was lower due to severe competition caused by supply overhang," said Vice-Chairman and MD N. Srinivasan. "Besides, there was a reduction in variable cost on account of softening of fuel prices," he said. "However, this was offset by a reduction in realisation resulting in lower margins. In turn, it impacted liquidity resulting in lower volume." Revenue from operations slid to ₹1,393 crore from ₹1,446 crore.

Auto-part sales rose 33% in FY23: ACMA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian auto-component industry clocked the highest-ever turnover of ₹5.6 lakh crore ($69.7 billion) in FY23, growing 32.8% from FY22, reported the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA).

"On back of significant vehicle sales in the country, a robust aftermarket and steady exports, the industry demonstrated its best-ever performance in FY23,'' said Vinnie Mehta, Director General, ACMA.

Exports grew by 5.2% to ₹1.61 lakh crore ($20.1 billion) while imports climbed by 10.9% to ₹1.63 lakh crore ($20.3 billion).

The aftermarket segment, valued at ₹85,333 crore, also saw a steady growth of 15%.

"With a significant mitigation in the supply-side issues of availability of semiconductors, input raw-material costs and logistics, the vehicle industry is expected to continue to perform well in FY24, which augurs well for the auto-components sector," said Sunjay Kapur, President, ACMA.

SEBI asks FPIs to trade 10% of corporate bonds via RFQ

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

In order to boost liquidity, SEBI has mandated foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to place at least 10% of trades in corporate bonds through the Request For Quote (RFQ) platform of stock exchanges.

The requirement will come into force from October 1, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said in a circular.

The move is aimed at raising liquidity on the RFQ platform, transparency and disclosures relating to investments in corporate bonds which, in turn, will encourage investment by the FPIs in the segment.

TVS Supply Chain IPO price band fixed at ₹187-197 a share

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

'Almost the entire proceeds from the ₹600 cr. fresh issue will go for retiring long term debt'

TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd. has announced tapping the capital market with an initial public offering (IPO) to raise about ₹880 crore for the company and a few selling shareholders.

The price band has been fixed at ₹187 per equity share to ₹197 per equity share of face value of ₹1 each of the company. The IPO will open on August 10 and close on August 14.

Bids can be made for a minimum of 76 equity shares and in multiples of 76 shares thereafter. The IPO consists of a fresh issue of up to ₹600 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 1,42,13,198 equity shares by investor selling shareholders and other selling shareholders. At the upper price band, the OFS would fetch ₹280 crore.

Almost the entire proceeds from the ₹600 crore fresh issue will go towards retiring long term debt of the company, which is about ₹1,000 crore, top company executives said.

Individuals filing income above ₹1 cr. doubled: data

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Individuals reporting annual total income of over ₹1 crore doubled to 1.69 lakh in the two-year period ended March 2022, income tax department data showed.

As per the tax return data filed in assessment year (AY) 2022-23, relating to income earned in fiscal 2021-22, 1,69,890 individuals have shown total income of above ₹ 1 crore.

This is higher than 1,14,446 individuals who had shown similar income in AY 2021-22. The number has doubled since AY 2020-21, wherein 81,653 individuals had declared an income of over ₹1 crore.

Ramco Cements Q1 net dips to ₹79 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Ramco Cements Ltd.'s standalone net profit for the June quarter contracted by 30% to ₹79 crore over the year-earlier period due to elevated fuel prices and weak cement prices.

Revenue from operations grew by 26% to ₹2,241 crore. Cost of materials rose by ₹84 crore to ₹300 crore, while power and fuel cost surged to ₹756 crore from ₹524 crore, the company said in a filing.

The cement major reported a 29% growth in its sales volume at 42 lakh tons. But for the non-availability of sand in Kerala, supply disruption due to rail accidents in Odisha and West Bengal and an active monsoon in the North East, the growth in sales volume could have been better, it said.

Even though fuel prices have softened, the full effect of the price reduction is expected to reflect only in Q2 in view of high base inventory. The company hopes its green power usage, which has risen from 19% to 29%, will reduce costs by ₹70-80 per tonne in the coming quarters.

FADA flags inventory as July retail auto sales rise

Reuters
BENGALURU

Retail sales of vehicles rose in July, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Association (FADA) said on Monday but cautioned of rising inventory levels and demand slowdown in certain categories despite the upcoming festive period.

Inventory days, an indicator of retail demand, ranged from 50-55 days for passenger vehicles, up from 45-49 days in June, FADA said. Higher inventory days indicate dealers are taking longer to sell the vehicles at outlets. Below average rain in August may also hurt rural demand.

Dhaksha Unmanned Systems bags order from Indian Army

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Fertiliser maker Coromandel International's subsidiary Dhaksha Unmanned Systems, which manufactures drones, has bagged an order to supply 200 medium altitude logistics drones and accessories to the Indian Army.

The firm also bagged a contract from agri inputs cooperative IFFCO recently for supply of 400 agri-spraying drones. These are planned to be delivered over the course of the next 12 months, Coromandel said on Monday. Dhaksha's orders in the current year, including those from the Army and IFFCO, had exceeded ₹165 crore, the company said.

"The defence contract validates Dhaksha's technology capability and its potential to capture opportunities in unmanned aerial systems space," said Arun Alagappan, executive vice chairman of Coromandel International.

UAE said to dither on $2-bn India food-parks proposal

Amiti Sen
NEW DELHI

The UAE, which promised $2-billion investments in food parks in India at the four-nation I2U2 (India-Israel-UAE-USA) Summit held in July 2022, is yet to deliver on its commitment more than a year later as it continues to raise policy concerns, sources said.

"There have been several meetings between the two sides to sort out concerns such as those related to the Essential Commodities Act," a source tracking the matter said. "But, UAE representatives, including top officials from investment body Abu Dhabi Developmental Holding Company (ADQ), just go in circles with their queries and haven't given any indications of when they would make the investments," the source added.

Boost to food security

At the summit, attended by PM Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joe Biden, among others, the UAE said it would invest $2 billion to develop integrated food parks across India as part of an initiative to enhance food security in West and South Asia.

However, the UAE has been raising concerns about India's Essential Commodities Act as three of the identified crops – onions, rice, bananas – are covered under the Act.

As export curbs can be imposed on such items if there are fears of a domestic shortage, the UAE's concerns are the uncertainty could hurt the prospects of the proposal. "India has already communicated it is ready to work around the problem stemming from the ECA," the source said.

Taxation policies

Queries were also raised by the UAE on India's taxation policies related to food parks which have been answered, he added.

The fact the proposal dates back to around 2018 and later dovetailed into the I2U2 commitment has made the delay more worrisome for India.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Banks' loans against gold jewellery to top ₹1 lakh crore soon

K Ram Kumar
MUMBAI

The 'loans against gold jewellery' portfolio of banks could cross the ₹1-lakh-crore mark in the next few months, going by strong year-over-year growth.

As on June 30, 2023, banks' gold jewellery loan portfolio recorded a robust 26% growth (vis-a-vis the July 1, 2022 outstanding) to ₹95,347 crore, per Reserve Bank of India data.

As on July 1, 2022, this loan portfolio had grown a tepid 1.4% (vis-a-vis the July 2, 2021 outstanding).

From March 24 till June 30, 2023, banks' jewellery loan portfolio increased by ₹6,919 crore. Going by this run-rate, the portfolio could cross the ₹1-lakh-crore mark even by September-end. Banks are accelerating their focus on the jewellery loan portfolio due to higher yields, lower defaults, and ease of recovery through auction.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,953	0.35
US Dollar	82.75	0.07
Gold	60,200	0.16
Brent oil	85.44	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2550.50	8.70
Adani Ports	791.40	16.15
Apollo Hosp	5014.40	34.10
Asian Paints	3343.00	3.35
Axis Bank	947.40	-4.85
Bajaj Auto	4670.10	-41.90
Bajaj Finserv	1508.40	22.10
Bajaj Finance	7122.15	-26.55
Bharti Airtel	891.40	1.75
BPCL	360.65	0.25
Britannia Ind	4659.75	-138.75
Cipla	1223.65	13.90
Coal India	232.95	-0.80
Divis Lab	3910.55	165.15
Dr Reddys Lab	5630.70	-18.85
Dummy - Jio Financial Services Ltd.	261.85	0.00
Eicher Motors	3355.85	-3.70
Grasim Ind	1855.60	30.15
HCL Tech	1150.80	6.45
HDFC Bank	1651.25	-0.95
HDFC Life	648.80	6.60
Hero MotoCorp	2954.05	9.35
Hindalco	464.85	7.85
Hind Unilever	2569.20	23.20
ICICI Bank	975.65	5.15
IndusInd Bank	1415.25	5.65
Infosys	1393.00	14.65
ITC	454.90	-0.05
JSW Steel	813.05	7.10
Kotak Bank	1831.55	-6.95
L&T	2635.90	9.00
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5047.05	106.15
M&M	1526.90	62.25
Maruti Suzuki	9523.80	53.40
NestleIndia	22459.30	4.80
NTPC	217.95	0.00
ONGC	172.95	-0.40
PowerGrid Corp	247.95	0.60
Reliance Ind	2523.85	14.30
SBI Life	1302.55	34.65
State Bank	567.90	-5.40
Sun Pharma	1160.80	21.85
TataConsumerProduct	837.80	3.00
Tata Motors	609.50	-5.50
Tata Steel	118.85	-0.15
TCS	3484.05	40.50
Tech Mahindra	1183.65	8.45
Titan	2904.60	0.20
UltraTech Cement	8175.45	17.30
UPL	606.80	3.45
Wipro	411.15	2.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 07

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.54	82.86
Euro	90.55	90.90
British Pound	105.00	105.41
Japanese Yen (100)	57.97	58.20
Chinese Yuan	11.48	11.53
Swiss Franc	94.09	94.47
Singapore Dollar	61.50	61.74
Canadian Dollar	61.61	61.85
Malaysian Ringitt	18.09	18.18
Australian Dollar	54.12	54.33

Source:Indian Bank

FADA flags inventory as July retail auto sales rise

Reuters
BENGALURU

Retail sales of vehicles rose in July, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Association (FADA) said on Monday but cautioned of rising inventory levels and demand slowdown in certain categories despite the upcoming festive period.

Inventory days, an indicator of retail demand, ranged from 50-55 days for passenger vehicles, up from 45-49 days in June, FADA said. Higher inventory days indicate dealers are taking longer to sell the vehicles at outlets. Below average rain in August may also hurt rural demand.

DISAPPOINTED

Batters need to take more responsibility, says Hardik

India skipper Hardik Pandya said the batters have to take more responsibility going forward. "If I am being honest that was a not a pleasing batting performance. The wickets were falling and the track was on the slower side. We could have batted better. Batters need to take more responsibility," Hardik said.

PENALISED

Pooran fined 15 per cent of his match fee for criticising umpires

West Indies wicketkeeper-batter Nicholas Pooran, the hero of its two-wicket victory over India in the second T20I on Sunday, has been fined 15 per cent of his match fee for publicly criticising the umpires during the match. A demerit point has also been added to Pooran's disciplinary record.

EDGE

Skipper Rohit banks on home support to win ODI World Cup

Skipper Rohit Sharma will be banking on the "massive" home support his team will get to win the ODI World Cup in India. "I've never seen it so close. Even when we won in 2011, I was not part of the squad. It looks beautiful and hopefully we can lift it, fingers crossed," Rohit was quoted as saying by the ICC.

TAKING OVER THE REINS

Sunrisers Hyderabad appoints Vettori as head coach; sacks Lara

Sunrisers Hyderabad on Monday announced the appointment of Daniel Vettori as their head coach, snapping the alliance with Brian Lara that lasted two seasons. This will be former New Zealand captain Vettori's second coaching stint in the IPL as he had earlier coached Royal Challengers Bangalore from 2014 to 2018.

Wasteful India edges out Korea in seesaw affair

The hosts also concede 11 penalty corners and even miss a penalty stroke before squeezing out a 3-2 victory to stay on top of the standings; Pakistan tastes first success in the competition

ACT HOCKEY

Uthra Ganesan
CHENNAI

The two top teams in the 2023 Asian Champions Trophy faced off on Monday and India came away deserving winner with a 3-2 victory against Korea, the game as close as the scoreline suggests with the host pushed all the way by the defending champion.

It was a see-saw game with India's performance mirroring its position in the game right through the contest. India took control of the game, opening up the field, switching flanks constantly to keep moving up and piercing the Korean defence. It was rewarded immediately, a fluent exchange between Sumit and Sukhjeet Singh resulting in a well-placed Nilakanta Sharma tapping in the opener in the sixth minute.

But the calmness and structure from the previous outing was missing as the erratic Indian forwards kept conceding turnovers and hard-fought possession. The Koreans took full advantage of it, making counterattacks every time they had the ball. One such move saw Sunghyun Kim catch the Indian defence napping and shooting home in the 12th minute.

The one that mattered: Mandeep's goal proved the difference between India and Korea. M. VEDHAN

With the Indian midfield allowing little space and constantly rotating, the opposition started using aerial balls to bypass them with good effect. India's finishing issues continued, something that coach Craig Fulton will need to address soon. The hosts also had just four penalty corners and even missed a penalty stroke while conceding 11 PCs, an area of concern for the defence.

That the Indians still came away winner is creditable given that the fourth quarter was almost entirely controlled by the Koreans. Considering that the past four meetings between the sides have all been draws and India last beat Korea way back in the 2018 edition of the competition, it would gladly take this victory ahead of the big clash against Pakistan.

Earlier, Pakistan registered a hard-fought 2-1 win against China to remain in the race for a semifinal spot. The former started aggressively as always but lack of tactical discipline, the inability to stay in structure and wayward shooting inside the circle meant there were as many turnovers conceded as chances created.

The Chinese, quick and strong, mounted numerous raids. It took an opportunistic deflection by Afraz – stretchered off earlier after being hit on the face by a shot from Ammad – for Pakistan to taste its first success here.

In the day's first game, Malaysia won 3-1 against Japan, its third victory in four games.

The results: Malaysia 3 (Najmi Jazlan 13, Azuan Hasan 37, Shello Silverius 59) bt Japan 1 (Takuma Niwa 59); Pakistan 2 (Mohammad Sufiyan 20, Afraz 39) bt China 1 (Jiesheng Gao 33); India 3 (Nilakanta Sharma 6, Harmanpreet Singh 23, Mandeep Singh 33) bt Korea 2 (Sunghyun Kim 12, Jihun Yang 58).

Men in Blue hope to stay alive, Men in Maroon eager to break seven-year jinx

INDIA IN WEST INDIES

Press Trust of India
PROVIDENCE (GUYANA)

India will need to bat with the fearlessness as it looks to avoid a series defeat in the third T20 International against the West Indies here on Tuesday.

India, which last lost to the West Indies in a bilateral T20 series back in 2016, trails 0-2 in the five-match series.

The shortest format demands the batters to go hard from ball one and that is something India's top-order, comprising Ishan Kishan, Shubman Gill and Suryakumar Yadav, have not been able to do.

The top-order's failure has put extra pressure on the likes of Sanju Samson and rookie Tilak Varma.

With focus on ODIs in a World Cup year, Gill, Kishan and Suryakumar would want to be amongst runs ahead of the Asia Cup.

India has been playing with a long tail with Axar Patel batting at seven to maintain the balance of the side and it is unlikely to change in the next game.

Kuldeep Yadav missed Sunday's game due to a sore thumb and it remains to be seen if he is available.

The bowlers, especially the spinners, need to find a way to contain Nicholas Pooran as he has been batting with disdain against the likes of Yuzvendra Chahal and Ravi Bishnoi.

Roadblock: The Indians who have run into an inspired West Indies will look to get past the hosts in the third T20I. AFP

West Indies' top-order has not been amongst the runs with Pooran left to do the heavy lifting. The likes of Pooran and Shimron Hetmyer will once again be looking to take the attack to the Indian spinners.

The teams (from): **India**: Hardik Pandya (Capt.), Suryakumar Yadav (vice-capt.), Ishan Kishan (wk), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Tilak Varma, Sanju Samson (wk), Axar Patel, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Umran Malik, Avesh Khan and Mukesh Kumar.

West Indies: Rovman Powell (Capt.), Kyle Mayers (vice-capt.), Johnson Charles, Roston Chase, Shimron Hetmyer, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Alzarri Joseph, Brandon King, Obed McCoy, Nicholas Pooran, Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith and Oshane Thomas.

Match starts at 8 p.m. IST.

Vidit and Harika battle on in Baku; Nihal gets past Deac

CHESS WORLD CUP

Sports Bureau

Vidit Gujrathi battled to a 5-4 victory while D. Harika needed an extra tie-break game to post a 5.5-4.5 triumph to progress in the World Cup chess in Baku on Monday.

Earlier, Nihal Sarin advanced to the fourth round by overcoming Romania's Bogdan-Daniel Deac 2.5-1.5 before Vidit joined him. Harika struggled to the pre-quarterfinal to keep the company of third-seeded compatriot K. Humpy.

The results (involving Indians, third round, tie-breaker):

Open: Vidit Gujrathi (2719) bt Matthias Bluebaum (Ger, 2672) 5-4; Nihal Sarin (2688) bt Bogdan-Daniel Deac (Rom, 2693) 2.5-1.5.

Women: D. Harika (2500) bt Lela Javakhishvili (Geo, 2439) 5-4.

The pairings (prefix denotes seeding):

Open (fourth round): 8-D. Gukesh (2744) v 40-Andrey Esipenko (FIDE, 2683); 20-Vidit Gujrathi (2719) v 52-Etienne Bacrot (Fra, 2662); 36-Nihal Sarin (2688) v 4-Ian Nepomniachtchi (FIDE, 2779); 23-Arjun Erigaisi (2710) v 55-Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb, 2659); 31-R. Praggnanandhaa (2690) v 2-Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 2787);

Women (Pre-quarterfinals): 3-K. Humpy (2553) v 14-Bela Khotenshvili (Geo, 2475); 10-D. Harika (2500) v 26-Eline Roebers (Ned, 2419).

Pathak's tough climb to the top of Indian hockey

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Life's struggles haven't deterred Krishan Pathak one bit. He has become stronger after each debacle and has risen to become one of the best goalkeepers in the Indian men's hockey team.

The 26-year-old from Punjab completed 100 International caps in the match against Korea in the Asian Champions Trophy here on Monday.

Losing his parents at a young age was tragic. He lost his mother in 2007 when he was at the Surjit Singh Academy in Jalandhar.

In 2015, on the eve of the Junior World Cup (India won the title), Pathak lost his father. He lived with his uncle before getting married in May this year and settling down in Mumbai.

Given the pain he has had to endure, 100 international caps is a significant milestone. Pathak underplayed it saying his life is the same as any other hockey player's.

"I am not at all different. Everybody struggles in some way or the other. Of course, childhood struggles were there for me. My uncle supported me when I stayed with him," said Pathak in a conversation with *The Hindu*.

Eye on the target: Pathak says the team's main aim is to win the gold in the Asian Games and qualify for the Olympics. M. VEDHAN

Pathak says being No. 2 to P.R. Sreejesh for most of his five years with the national team has been a learning curve.

"I was a bit apprehensive when I came to the Indian team in 2018. Obviously, when a new player joins the team, it is always difficult to communicate with seniors. Things got better as Sreejesh and I started playing more together. We discussed our games, and our bonding got better," Pathak said. So much so that Pathak discusses not just hockey, but also life matters with his seniors now.

Chennai connection

Pathak remembers Chennai as the place he got his call-up to the National junior team camp after a solid performance in the Junior Nationals.

"It was the Nationals in 2013. Harmanpreet Singh, Varun, Harjit Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, we all played together here".

I don't see why Bumrah can't return to where he was, says McGrath

'Two or 11 months away from the game won't make much difference; he has been there before and achieved'

INTERVIEW

McGrath

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Former Australian cricketer Glenn McGrath's pre-series prediction of his side blanking England 5-0 did not happen, but he felt that the 2-2 result in the Ashes was a fair result. The pace bowling legend is in the city on his third visit this year for his periodical camp at the MRF Pace Foundation, where he is the Director of Coaching. He spoke on the Ashes, the future of Test cricket, Jasprit Bumrah and more.

On the Ashes

It was a great contest. Every day someone would get in front, and then the (other) would fight back; it ebbed and flowed through the day. It was great viewing for fans. To have a series like that is good for Test cricket. We must look after Test cricket, protect it and keep people coming to it. A series like that is one way to do it.

On England's Bazball

They have proved that in England and did well in Pakistan. It is quite an aggressive form. But the team I was lucky enough to play in, we went out and backed ourselves. That's what the Australian team did. It is not something new. The scoring rate may be a little (quicker). I like the concept, and it is about backing your players. Without a doubt, it has made Test cricket lively. How it goes in Indian or Australian conditions, we will wait and see. It is a challenge; we will see what the future has in it and whether it is sustainable.

Bumrah's comeback

Plainspeak: Glenn McGrath feels that a series like the Ashes was needed to preserve and promote Test cricket. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

He is a quality bowler. If he has put the work off the field, I don't see why he can't return to where he was. Just the way the last few strides and (he) explodes through the crease, it takes a toll on the body with the effort and energy put in. It is about getting back to the swing of things. The lay-off should help because fast bowlers need that time away to put strength back in their bodies. It depends on his strength work, how his back is, and if he has done anything to his action. Two or 11 months away from the game won't make much difference. He has been there before and achieved. The big question is can he get back there? I will watch him to see if he returns to where he was.

Australia's World Cup chances

They are in the top four teams to make the semis. I put India, England, Australia and Pakistan as the top four sides. They (Australia) perform well in the big tournaments and have experienced players, with some younger guys coming through. They have enough games in the subcontinental conditions to prepare for the World Cup. Maybe New Zealand is an underdog.

INBRIEF

Messi on the double as Miami makes the last eight

Lionel Messi scored twice, including a brilliant late equaliser, as Inter Miami advanced past FC Dallas to the quarterfinals of the Leagues Cup on penalties after an enthralling 4-4 draw at Frisco.

The result: FC Dallas 4 (Quignon 37, Kamungo 45, Velasco 63, Taylor 68-og) drew with Inter Miami 4 (Messi 6, 85, Cremaschi 65, Farfan 80-og). *Inter Miami won 5-3 on penalties.*

Indian wrestlers win 11 medals at World u-17 championships

Savita clinched the lone gold as Indian wrestlers collected 11 medals in the World under-17 championships, in Istanbul on Sunday. Savita defeated Japan's Konami Ono 9-6 in the women's 61kg final.

The medallists: Men: Freestyle: 51kg: Rohit (silver), **55kg:** Ankush (silver). **Greco Roman: Men: 51kg:** Manu Yadav (bronze), **55kg:** Suraj (silver), **65kg:** Sachin Kumar (bronze), **110kg:** Ronak (silver).
Women: 40kg: Rachana (silver), **46kg:** Muskan (silver), **57kg:** Neha (bronze), **61kg:** Savita (gold), **69kg:** Srishti (silver).

Boutier claims Women's title; Aditi finishes tied 55th

India's Aditi Ashok closed the week at Women's Scottish Open golf at Troon with a round of 2-under 70, her best in the tournament, for tied 55th spot. France's Celine Boutier completed back-to-back wins with a final round 70.

Bhagat-Kadam pair clinches the gold in Sheffield

Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam won a gold after defeating Deep Ranjan Bisoyee and Manoj Sarkar 21-17, 21-17 in SL3-SL4 category at the Four Nations Para-Badminton International in Sheffield, England. Bhagat also secured a silver in the singles SL3 category as well as a silver in mixed doubles SL3- SU5 category with Manisha Ramdass.

Dipa requests for relaxation to take part in Asian Games

Gymnast Dipa Karmakar has written to Sports Authority of India to provide her "relaxation" so that she can participate in the Hangzhou Asian Games. In a letter dated August 5, Dipa said although she was not able to compete in the last three years due to unavoidable reasons and could not meet the criteria set by the SAI, she had been training throughout this period and was confident about her fitness.

PCB re-appoints Inzamam as chief selector

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Monday re-appointed Inzamam-ul-Haq as its chief selector, bringing him back for the role for a second term. Inzamam, 53, had earlier held the position of chief selector between 2016 and 2019.

Mohun Bagan beats Punjab, climbs to the top

Mohun Bagan Super Giant defeated Roundglass Punjab FC 2-0 to register its second consecutive win in a Group A league match of the 132nd Durand Cup in Kolkata on Monday.

The results: Mohun Bagan SG 2 (Melroy Assisi 23-og, Hugo Boumous 48) bt Roundglass Punjab FC 0; Odisha FC 0 lost to Indian Army FT 1 (Liton Shil 43).

Mitchell Marsh named T20I captain for South Africa tour

Mitchell Marsh was named Australia's new T20 captain on Monday for its tour of South Africa. An initial 18-man squad for the 2023 World Cup and preceding five-match ODI series against South Africa was also named.

The squads: T20Is: Mitchell Marsh (Capt.), Sean Abbott, Jason Behrendorff, Tim David, Nathan Ellis, Aaron Hardie, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Spencer Johnson, Glenn Maxwell, Matt Short, Steve Smith, Marcus Stoinis, Adam Zampa.
ODIs: Pat Cummins (Capt.), Abbott, Ashton Agar, Alex Carey, Ellis, Cameron Green, Hardie, Josh Hazlewood, Head, Inglis, Mitchell Marsh, Maxwell, Tanveer Sangha, Smith, Mitchell Starc, Stoinis, David Warner, Zampa.

England scrapes past Nigeria on penalties; Australia trumps Denmark

European champion was held to a goalless draw by the African side till the end of extra time; the host dominates proceedings against the Danes

Jubilant: England is ecstatic after prevailing in the tense penalty shoot-out. GETTY IMAGES

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
BRISBANE

England survived the sending-off of Lauren James to scrape past Nigeria in a penalty shoot-out on Monday.

Chloe Kelly scored the winning penalty in Brisbane as England beat Nigeria 4-2 in the shoot-out after a tense last-16 tie finished 0-0 at the end of extra time. European champion England will play either Colombia or Jamaica in the last eight on Saturday.

Coach Sarina Wiegman, who welcomed key midfielder Keira Walsh back into her side after injury, called it "a very, very hard game".

Georgia Stanway put the first penalty of the shoot-out wide for England, but Desire Oparanozie and Michelle Alozie followed suit, both missing the target with Nigeria's first two attempts.

Beth England, Rachel Daly and Alex Greenwood all scored for England before Kelly converted the decisive kick.

In another match, Australia eased past Denmark 2-0 in front of nearly 76,000 fans in Sydney. It will play France or Morocco on Saturday in the quarters in Brisbane.

To cap a good night's work for the Matildas, talismanic striker and captain Sam Kerr came on with 10 minutes for her first action of the tournament after a calf injury.

Caitlin Foord ran Denmark ragged throughout and scored a fine first after being set up by the impressive Mary Fowler on 29 minutes. Hayley Raso grabbed a second to make the game safe 20 minutes from time.

The results (round-of-16): England 0 drew with Nigeria 0; (**England won 4-2 on penalties**); Australia 2 (Foord 29, Raso 70) bt Denmark 0.
Tuesday's matches: Colombia vs Jamaica (1.30 p.m. IST); France vs Morocco (4.30 p.m.).

Karnataka runs the risk of turning the clock back by confining top-tier cricket to Bengaluru

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Missed chance: The state's cricketers will be losing the opportunity to test their skills on different conditions. FILE PHOTO: SUDHAKARA JAIN

In July 2022, at the unveiling of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20, the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) had hoped that the tournament would energise cricketing activity in the state after the Covid-induced lull.

The premier T20 competition was also returning in a new avatar - earlier called the Karnataka Premier League (KPL) - after the betting scandal of 2019.

Roger Binny, then KSCA president and now the head of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), had stated that the event would "continue the development" in the districts. "We won't let you down," he had promised.

A year on, it appears that the custodians haven't quite walked the talk.

The 2023 edition of the Maharaja Trophy will not feature a single match outside Bengaluru, only for the second time in 10 editions (2010-11 being the other). In the 2022-23 Ranji Trophy, Karnataka played all six of its home matches in Bengaluru, something that hasn't happened in more than a decade.

"It may be because of the broadcaster," speculated a player who was part of the Gulbarga Mystics outfit that won the Maharaja Trophy last year.

"*Star Sports* may have given only a small window for broadcast [Aug.13 to Aug.29]. But fans outside will be disappointed."

A former state player and veteran of over 50 First Class matches felt that monsoon may have played a role.

> I am also surprised. There is more viewership outside Bangalore and those supporters are very passionate about the game
> **A FORMER STATE PLAYER**

"In Bengaluru, we have the SubAir drainage system and we can restart matches quickly once the rain stops," he said.

"But I heard that the Mysore team [Mysore Warriors] wasn't too pleased. I am also surprised. There is more viewership outside Bangalore and those supporters are very passionate about the game," he added.

Be it because of the broadcaster or the weather - there is merit in both arguments - the insular move to use only Bengaluru turns the clock back on Karnataka's spirited efforts to democratise the game, wherein the likes of Mysuru, Hubballi, Shivamogga and Belagavi have proved to be capable hosts.

Contrast

The move is also in contrast to what neighbouring Tamil Nadu is doing to deepen the sport's roots.

The last two editions of the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL) have been entirely held outside Chennai, with Coimbatore, Salem, Tirunelveli and Dindigul emerging as hosts.

The prestigious Buchi Babu invitational tournament, which begins next week after a five-year hiatus, is also scheduled to be played away from Chennai.

"It's a good challenge to play at different grounds," said the veteran cricketer. "Bangalore is batting-friendly and mostly flat. When you go to Hubli, Mysore, the conditions, weather and pitches are all different.

"They are open grounds, so wind is a factor. At the Chinnaswamy, there is hardly any wind, and if you middle the ball, it is invariably a six. Earlier there was some novelty in every ball being hit for a six, but not anymore. Crowds are more knowledgeable and we need an even contest." he added.

For some, top-tier cricket being limited to Bengaluru is just a symptom of a much bigger problem - uneven distribution of resources.

"When there are no turf grounds how can we hold [Ranji] matches?" asked a Kalaburagi-based coach.

"There is one KSCA ground in Raichur, but there is no development. There are good private facilities at KBN ground (Kalaburagi) and Siddharaj ground (Maniknagar, Bidar) and they have been very helpful. But we need something of our own so that our children don't suffer," he added.

The KSCA officials, despite repeated attempts, were unavailable for comment.

Briar Ridge finishes on top in Mount Everest Plate

HYDERABAD: Trainer K.S.V. Prasad Raju's Briar Ridge (Santosh Raj N.R. up) claimed the Mount Everest Plate, the main event of Monday's (Aug. 7) races.
The winner is owned by M/s. Teegala Vijender Reddy, Teegala Sumant Reddy & Ashok Ranpise.
1. PALAMPET PLATE: PLANET SUPER (Kuldeep Singh Sr. 1, Alcahol Free (Tograllu) 2, Faiz (Afroz Khan) 3 and Moon Walk (B. Nikhil) 4. 1/2, 1 and 2-3/4. 1m 15. 26s. ₹20 (w), 13, 18 and 13 (p). SHP: 60, THP: 40, SHW: 14 and 28, FP: 164, Q: 95, Tanala: 781. Favourite: Planet Super.
Owner: Mr. T. Amarender Reddy. Trainer: S. Sreekant.
2. ASCOT PLATE: SHADOW OF THE MOON (Yash Narredu) 1, Lady Racines (Akshay Kumar) 2, Terenga (Antony Raj) 3 and Sacred Bond (S. Saqlain) 4. 3-3/4, 5 and 2-3/4. 1m 26. 07s. ₹13 (w), 12, 12 and 12 (p). SHP: 35, THP: 36, SHW: 11 and 20, FP: 50, Q: 39, Tanala: 191. Favourite: Shadow Of The Moon.
Owners: Mr. Kunal Gupta rep. Kunal Gupta Stud Farm LLP. Trainer: Laxman Singh.
3. MOUNT EVEREST PLATE: BRIAR RIDGE (Santosh Raj N.R.) 1, Unsung Hero (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 2, City Of Bliss (Neeraj) 3 and Mark My Day (Kuldeep Singh Sr.) 4. Hd, 4 and 3. 1m 12. 88s. ₹24 (w), 15 and 26 (p). SHP: 40, THP: 27, SHW: 16 and 23, FP: 111, Q: 80, Tanala: 344. Favourite: Mark My Day. Owners: M/s. Teegala Vijender Reddy, Teegala Sumant Reddy & Ashok Ranpise. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.
4. BASRA CUP: DETECTIVE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Divine Destiny (Surya Prakash) 2, Aerial Combat (Mohit Singh) 3 and Voice Of A Dream (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 8, Nk and 7-1/14. 1m 52. 77s. ₹21 (w), 12, 18 and 13 (p). SHP: 58, THP: 58, SHW: 13 and 41, FP: 144, Q: 147, Tanala: 665. Favourite: Original Sin. Owners: Mr. Cyrus F. Palia & Mrs. Freny C. Palia, Kunwar Digvijay Singh Shekhawat. Trainer: Laxman Singh.
5. BHAKTAWAR PLATE (DIV. III): BEST BUDDY (R.S. Jodha) 1, Royal Grace (Akshay Kumar) 2, Star Racer (Kuldeep Singh Jr.) 3 and Southern Act (G. Naresh) 4. 1, Shd and 6-3/4. 1m 26. 20s. ₹55, 18, 13 and 20 (p). SHP: 35, THP: 75, SHW: 29 and 12, FP: 197 , Q: 67, Tanala: 1,072. Favourite: Royal Grace.
Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.
6. P.G. REDDY MEMORIAL CUP: TRUTH (Kuldeep Singh Sr.) 1, Ramiel (S.K. Paswan) 2, Nugget (Kuldeep Singh Jr.) 3 and Juramento (S. Saqlain) 4. 1-1/4, 2-1/2 and 2. 1m 39. 45s. 16 (w), 10, 12 and 17 (p). SHP: 26, THP: 35, SHW: 11 and 15, FP: 46, Q: 26, Tanala: 111. Favourite: Truth. Owners: Mr. N.V. Rohin Kumar & Mr. G.K. Keshavmurthy. Trainer: S. Sreekant.
7. JANGAON PLATE: SIDDHARTH (Akshay Kumar) 1, Anab E Shahi (S. Saqlain) 2, Nucleus (Mohit Singh) 3 and Divine Connection (Md. Ekram Alam) 4. 7-1/2, 1-1/4 and 1/2. 1m 13. 02s. ₹27 (w), 11, 12 and 58 (p). SHP: 37, THP: 153, SHW: 14 and 13, FP: 103, Q: 54, Tanala: 1,602. Favourite: Alexina. Owner: Mr. Aditya P. Thackersey. Trainer: M. Srinivas Reddy.
NOTE:
In this race first favourite Alexina (Ajay Kumar up) stumbled near 900m and dislodged her rider Ajay Kumar who was taken to the hospital for further treatment.
Jackpot : 70%: ₹2,689 (146 tkts.), 30%: 271 (621 tkts.). Treble (i): 92 (445 tkts.), (ii): 588 (113 tkts.). Mini Jackpot (i): 359 (159 tkts.), (ii): 1,039 (67 tkts.).

LIVE TELECAST

Football: Women's World Cup, FanCode, 1.30 & 4.30 p.m.
Hockey: ACT, FanCode, 4, 6.15 & India vs Pakistan, 8.30 p.m.
West Indies vs India: 3rd T20I, FanCode, 8 p.m.

SNAPSHOTS

Pardeep retained, other stars back on the PKL auction table

The Pro Kabaddi League announced its full list of retained players ahead of the auction for the 10th edition next month which will be held on September 8 and 9 in Mumbai. A total of 84 players were retained across three categories with 22 in the Elite Retained Players (ERP) category, 24 in the Retained Young Players section and 38 in Existing New Young Players. Almost all the established stars find themselves back in the auction pool barring Pardeep Narwal, who has been retained by UP Yoddha.

Anita, Sanjay in the fray for WFI chief's post

Anita Sheoran will take on Sanjay Kumar Singh in the contest for the president's post in the Wrestling Federation of India elections on Saturday. Darshan Lal of Brij Bhushan camp and RSPB secretary P.C. Locab, who is considered close to protesting wrestlers, will fight for secretary general's post. Satya Pal Singh Deshwal will be challenged by Dushyant Sharma for the post of treasurer.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

On top: Swatic Union (2) took the honours in the KSCA u-16 inter-club tournament. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Reddy's impressive show

B.N.S. Reddy won gold and bronze medals in the tennis doubles and singles events respectively in the World Police and Fire Games held in Winnipeg (Canada). Retired IPS officer Reddy, the ICC Anti Corruption Consultant, won the doubles gold alongside S.M. Sharma.

Talha powers Swastic Union (2) to title win

Talha Sheriff (150, 145b, 16x4, 4x6) powered Swastic Union CC (2) past Vijaya CC in the final of the KSCA under-16 inter-club tournament here.
The score (final): Swastic Union (2) 295/6 in 50 overs (Talha Sheriff 150, R. Shiv 78, Rehan Mohammed 34) bt Vijaya 184 in 45.4 overs (K.P. Ahan 56, Bhuvan Shivkumar Basidoni 35, R. Shiv 3/21).

Thancos Students Union in semis

Thancos Students Union FC edged out South United 2-1 in the quarterfinal of the Infiniti C Puttaiah Memorial Rolling Cup football tournament here.
The results (quarterfinals): Thancos Students Union FC 2 (Mrinal Muthanna 38, Rutig Agirao 39) bt South United 1 (Altab Hussain 82); FC Deccan 3 (Rakesh Singh 49, 62, Naveen Das 80) bt ASC & Center FC 3 (Robinson Singh 3, Niraj Singh 32, Tony Huidrom 85) (via 5-3 on penalties).

Big win for Vidyashilp Academy

Vidyashilp Academy whipped Chinmaya Vidyalaya 10-0 in the Centenary Shield (under-17) semifinal of the St. Joseph's Boys' High School inter-school hockey tournament here.
The results: Centenary Shield: Under-17: Semifinals: SJBHS 1 (Godwin Antony 41) bt FAPS 0; Vidyashilp Academy 10 (Neil Chouhan 7, Pranit Gadia 23, Aayush Aravind 26, 36, 38, 39, 40, 49, Naman Daga 32, Aurit Dutta 41) bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya 0.
Fr. Claude D'Souza Memorial (u-12): Greenwood HS bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya-A 3-2; St. Joseph's BHS-B bt FAPS 4-1; Vidyashilp Academy-B bt St. Antony's-A 3-2; St. Joseph's BHS-A bt Greenwood HS-A 9-4; Vidyashilp Academy-A bt FAPS 1-0; St. Joseph's BHS-A bt St. Antony's-B 9-0; Greenwood HS-B drew with Vidyashilp Academy-A 0-0; St. Antony's-A bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya-B 3-1; St. Joseph's BHS-A bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya-A 12-0.